

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

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FURTHER REPORTAGE ON CENTRAL AMERICAN HIJACKING

Panama Issues Communique

PA301625 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 30 Mar 81 p 21

[Panamanian Foreign Ministry communique dated 29 March 1981]

[Text] For eminently humanitarian reasons, the Panamanian Government interposed its good offices before the Government of the Republic of Honduras in order to contribute to safeguarding the lives and physical integrity of the hostages aboard a hijacked Honduran plane. The plane was hijacked in exchange for the release of 15 political prisoners--13 Salvadorans and 2 Hondurans, including Salvadoran leader Facundo Guardado--whose release was being demanded by militants of the "Cinchoneros" People's Liberation Movement [MPL] as a condition for the liberation of the hostages and the aircraft.

The negotiations of the Panamanian Government reached their main goal on Saturday, 28 March when the commercial plane Boeing 737-200 of the Honduran airline, SAHSA, which had been diverted by armed MPL militants, arrived in Tocumen from Managua at approximately 1950. The aircraft was on an international flight from Tegucigalpa to New Orleans on 27 March when the MPL armed group assumed control of it, keeping the passengers and crew hostages.

The four MPL members were aboard the Honduran plane when it landed in Panama. They immediately turned themselves over to National Guard units, headed by Lt Col Manuel A. Noriega who received them. Also on board were the 53 hostages accompanied by the Panamanian ambassador to Nicaragua, Baltazar Aizpurua, who was involved in the initial efforts to put an end to the crisis.

Following negotiations by top Panamanian authorities, the Honduran Government promised to release the 15 political prisoners on Monday, 30 March. This humanitarian gesture by the Panamanian Government allowed the SAHSA Boeing aircraft, its passengers and crew to return safe and sound to Honduras where they arrived early on Sunday, 29 March.

For its part, the National Guard of Panama has been holding the four Cinchoneros MPL militants, pending the procedures for the release of the prisoners and the issuing of safe-conducts that will allow them to go to the country or countries they choose and which are willing to receive them.

It was announced this afternoon that the Honduran Government has agreed to release the 15 political prisoners in question who have left for Panama City and who are expected to arrive tonight.

Radio Refutes Honduran Report

PA302151 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1600 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Excerpts] Honduran radio stations are implicating Nicaragua in the SAHSA plane hijacking perpetrated over the weekend.

The Honduran radio stations are broadcasting a false Cinchoneros communique which says that a Cuban pretending to be a Nicaraguan took the arms into the plane at Sandino Airport.

According to the reports being broadcast, the Nicaraguan Government is implicated in the SAHSA plane hijacking. This is a new campaign being staged by the Honduran radio stations. Here is the report broadcast by the Honduran station HRN this morning:

[Begin recording] This is the latest communique sent by the Cinchoneros organization to the press department of our station. The note states: The only Nicaraguan passenger on the aircraft is not Nicaraguan, but Cuban. He gave us instructions in Managua and was the one who took the arms aboard the aircraft in the Cesar Augusto Sandino Airport.

My companeros boarded the aircraft in Toncontin and I refused to accompany them. The Cuban has no commercial connections in San Pedro Sula. I deplore what happened and do not want to cause any more harm to my fatherland.

[Signed] Carlos, member of the Cinchoneros guerrilla command. [end recording]

As our listeners have just heard, this was an alleged communique signed by the Cinchoneros group and in which one of the repentant hijackers says that a Cuban pretending to be a Nicaraguan planned the hijacking. The communique also affirms that the arms were introduced into the plane in Nicaragua.

This is one more campaign of provocations, one more scheme against Nicaragua being planned by Honduras after the success achieved by the Cinchoneros in Honduras by obtaining the release of 15 political prisoners who will travel to Cuba today.

Panama Ready for Prisoners

PA301904 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1826 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Excerpts] Panama City, 30 Mar (LATIN)--Panamanian officials today prepared to receive a group of Honduran prisoners whose release was demanded by four guerrillas who had hijacked a Honduran commercial plane with 86 passengers aboard on Friday and who later turned themselves over to Panamanian authorities.

The Tegucigalpa government had announced that the 14 [number as received] prisoners, whose release was demanded by the hijackers, were to be sent to Panama by air today.

A Honduran Government communique described the group as common criminals and not political prisoners as the guerrillas who hijacked the Boeing 737 claimed.

The government communique identified the prisoners who will be released as 13 Salvadorans and 1 Costa Rican.

The list was headed by Facundo Guardado, one of the Salvadoran leftist leaders who are struggling to overthrow the civilian-military government in El Salvador, a country scourged by a virtual civil war.

The Honduran communique stated that all the prisoners, except Guardado were captured by the police in January as they were trying to smuggle weapons for the Salvadoran guerrillas which were valued at \$1 million.

The following is the list of prisoners whom Honduras agreed to release: Facundo Guardado, Alvaro Alfaro Orellan, Alfredo Burgos, Reyes Tovar Menjivar, Jose Ricardo Castellon, Rosa Elena Castellon, Martha Castellon, Antonio Chicas Rosa, Luis Ricardo Ramirez, Carlos Manuel Lobo, Vilma Rodriguez, Augusto Cana Martinez and Jose Fernando Aguilar Rivera, all of them Salvadorans, and Rafael Angel Mendez, a Costa Rican.

Guardado Reportedly Not Held

PA301350 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Telephone hookup with correspondents Alberto Reyes and Juan Bautista in Honduras--presumably live]

[Excerpts] [Question] What information do you have, Bautista? Will Facundo Guardado be released?

[Bautista] As for the demands of the hijackers, in response to the mediation by Panama, and as proof that the Honduran Government has no interest in keeping undesirable foreign elements who have violated our laws, it has decided to deport to the Republic of Panama those being held in Honduran prisons for illegal arms trafficking.

The government has taken advantage of the national network to state clearly its position to act at all times in keeping with the laws of the country and to not negotiate with lawbreakers under any circumstances. We repeat, not to negotiate with lawbreakers under any circumstances. As for the persons to be released, we know they are [words indistinct].

[Question] Juan Bautista, what can you tell us about the release of Facundo Guardado, who is said to be detained in Honduras?

[Bautista] Well, only the Cinchoneros or the hijackers are the ones who say Facundo Guardado is being detained in Tegucigalpa in one of the prisons in this country. But the authorities have announced that both Facundo Guardado and Pablo Moran, two of the Salvadoran guerrillas whose release is demanded by the hijackers, at no time have been detained in Honduras.

[Question] When will the prisoners be released; who is going to be released and when will they leave for Panama?

[Bautista] The Cinchoneros, or pardon me, those detained, could leave today, but we must note that the authorities say Facundo Guardado at no time was detained in Honduras. As for the news media in Honduras, we know absolutely nothing, have seen absolutely nothing and have no official report on it.

REGIONAL BISHOPS CONFERENCE ENDS IN CHILE

FY241230 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1924 GMT 21 Mar 81

[Text] Santiago, 21 Mar (LATIN)--Today the Latin American Bishops Conference (CELAM) ended its 18th regular assembly in which it evaluated the activities of the Catholic Church in the continent and established the new guidelines which will be implemented as of 1983.

The meeting was held for 6 days at Punta Tralca resort, 130 km northeast of Santiago, and it was attended by 6 cardinals and 58 bishops.

The closing ceremony was presided over by the CELAM President Msgr Alfonso Lopez Trujillo, archbishop of Medellin, who then held a thanksgiving mass.

It was disclosed that CELAM will release an official communique containing the main agreements reached during the 6-day meeting.

LAIA ORGANIZATION OFFICIALLY REPLACES LAFTA

FY181517 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1412 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] Montevideo, 18 Mar (TELAM)--The Latin America Integration Association [LAIA], an organization for economic complementation which replaces the Latin American Free Trade Association (LAFTA), has been established here in the presence of high-ranking Uruguayan officials and representatives of Latin American countries.

The permanent political organization of the new organization and its regulations have been approved at a meeting held here.

REACTION TO ATTACK ON U.S. PRESIDENT REAGAN

Viola's Message of Sorrow

PY310004 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2325 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 30 Mar (TELAM)--Argentine President Roberto Eduardo Viola sent a personal message today to U.S. President Ronald Reagan as a result of the serious attack on his life.

The Argentine president in his message expresses the grief of the Argentine Government and people over the attack in which the U.S. president was wounded.

The text of the message reads as follows: "The people and government of the Argentine nation have learned with deep concern and sorrow of the very serious attack on the United States through the person of its first citizen.

"They regret and reject the treacherous nature of the crime which has endangered the life of your excellency only a few day after a beginning of an administration in which the Western nations have placed a great sharp [as received] of hope.

"The criminal attack against your excellency has for me particularly a high emotional content because it has only been a short time since you received me as Argentine president-designate in a cordial meeting.

"I, therefore, wish your excellency a quick recovery. It is the main wish of my government that the president elected by the American people by a great majority to lead the destiny of the country in this crucial time will soon be able to resume his duties to fulfill his high mission."

General Viola met with Reagan at the White House on 17 March. They both stated that the meeting was cordial. Viola then indicated that he was highly satisfied by the results of the meeting with the now wounded U.S. president.

Government Expresses Sorrow

PY302239 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2222 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 30 Mar (TELAM)--The San Martin Palace has expressed its condolences over the attack against the U.S. president and other officials who had been with him.

The communique states: The Foreign Ministry expresses its sorrow over the attack against the life of U.S. President Ronald Reagan and of other persons who were accompanying him, and condemns this form of violence which disturbs the people of the United States and of the international community.

CARDINAL ARAMBURU SAYS BEAGLE MEDIATION CONTINUES

PY281631 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1215 GMT 28 Mar 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 28 Mar (TELAM)--The archbishop of Buenos Aires, Cardinal Juan Carlos Aramburu, who returned today to Argentina after a brief trip to the Vatican, stated that the pope is praying for the success of his mediation and reported that His Holiness John Paul II has told him that the Argentine Government has not rejected his mediation.

Cardinal Aramburu categorically denied that Cardinal Antonio Samore has resigned and stressed: "I do not believe he is going to resign. I have met with him more than once I cannot believe it.

First of all, I believe he really likes the subject; he is involved in it and is working on it, spending a great deal of effort and concern."

He explained that Cardinal Samore has held more than 400 meetings with the various commissions. Therefore, what the Vatican will do now is study the results of these meetings and the information the Argentine Government has sent.

He said: "Some time will be spent thinking, as is only proper, to allow things to develop smoothly, in an orderly way and in the right direction."

Cardinal Aramburu, who made these statements shortly before his arrival at Ezeiza International Airport, reaffirmed his optimism toward the pope's mediation in the southern border conflict with Chile and insisted that he was still optimistic after his trip to the Vatican.

"I believe the mediation is continuing since the Argentine Government has sent its opinion on it and the holy father himself has told me about this answer. Now the studies will continue to find new options and to keep going because the holy father is committed and wants to help fulfill this peaceful project," Cardinal Aramburu said.

As for the possibility that the mediation has entered a one-way street, Cardinal Aramburu said that for humans there are no one-way streets, even less when there is good will and the authority of the holy father rests on his very desire to find a solution.

He indicated that in this regard John Paul II's position is that of a father to both nations, and this father, he said, wants peace and not war.

"I cannot tell you everything we talked about," he stated, "nor did they tell me all the details, but the impression on which I base my optimism has not been undermined."

He added that this must be reaffirmed for the benefit of many people who do not believe the current course of action is the right one. "We are among human beings," he said, "and the reason for this mediation has been the desire to seek the advice of someone with a strong moral authority who would be prepared to act like a father, someone like John Paul II. I do not doubt that he will do it. I have no doubts at all," he stressed.

Asked whether the pope spoke about the Beagle issue, the cardinal said the pope was praying for the success of his mediation.

Aramburo said: "The second time I met with him he told me he was reading the answer of the Argentine Government and that he had not finished reading yet, which proves that the Argentine Government has not rejected the pope's mediation."

Concerning the reasons for his trip to the Vatican, the cardinal explained that it was a relatively short visit and "my objective was to participate in the plenary meeting on education for which the holy father has called us. He also addressed us on the subjects we had discussed at the meeting."

FORMER COMMANDER REVEALS ARGENTINE BEAGLE POSITION

PY272004 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1107 GMT 27 Mar 81

[Text] Cordoba, 27 Mar (NA)—Gen Luciano Menendez (ret), former commander of the III Corps, has revealed here that the Argentine Government has asked Pope John Paul II to include in his proposal to solve the border conflict with Chile, "fixed stable borders on land to act as a barrier to stop the Chilean march to the east—that is, block Chilean access to the Atlantic."

Menendez--who gave a lecture to the Movement for Reaffirming Sovereignty, an organization he heads--revealed that the Argentine answer states that "we Argentines did not know we were going to be asked to make the type of sacrifices suggested by the 12 December Vatican document."

He said: "Our objective is to keep what is ours and, ideally, we should achieve this in peace. Our objective is to have the South Atlantic exclusively to ourselves, including its islands and the Argentine Antarctic, because Chile has long tried to grow at the expense of its neighbors and has been able to do it in the north and south."

He also said that one of the Chilean "great ambitions" is to make horizontal its vertical border. He then asked: "Will Chile be satisfied--considering that it has expanded from the Bio Bio River to the Antarctic and now intends to gain access to the Atlantic--with the maritime borders--which are longitudinal--proposed by Pope John Paul II?"

He also rhetorically asked why Chile wants the Nueva, Lennon and Picton Islands since they "are small and have no economic value." He then responded saying: "Because they are the stepping stone to the South Atlantic, after which it will extend its rights--now legitimized by the pope's proposal--over the Argentine Antarctic."

GENERAL WARNED AGAINST COMMENTING ON BEAGLE

PY281634 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1745 GMT 27 Mar 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 27 Mar (TELAM)--Sources connected with army headquarters have indicated that Maj Gen Juan Enrique Guglielmelli, re., has been summoned to headquarters and warned against publishing personal interpretations of developments in the southern dispute. This measure was apparently prompted by the impending publication of his study on the subject in the specialized magazine ESTRATEGIA.

MRS PERON'S LAWYERS APPEAL 8-YEAR SENTENCE

PY281738 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1528 GMT 27 Mar 81

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 27 Mar (TELAM)--The lawyers defending former Argentine President Maria Estela Martinez de Peron appealed at noon today before the federal court presided over by Judge Norberto Angel Giletta--Alfredo H. Bisordi, secretary--within the framework of her trials for mismanagement of the Solidarity Crusade charity funds.

The appeal, for which no grounds were given, is against the sentence, which includes 8 years imprisonment, total and permanent loss of political rights, and payment of damages set at 3.25 billion pesos, which the judge passed on the former chief of state last Friday.

BRIEFS

STEEL MILL EXPANSION--Buenos Aires, 26 Mar (KYODO)--Japan and Argentina have finally agreed on Japanese investments in a steel mill expansion project being promoted by Somisa, the Argentine state-owned steel company, it was disclosed Thursday. Under the agreement, reached Wednesday night between a visiting Japanese delegation and Somisa officials, the Japanese government and private interests will invest 50 million dollars in the project. In exchange, Somisa will order all the steelmaking equipment necessary for the promotion of the project from Japan. In addition, the Argentine Government will order from Japan equipment for three support projects, according to Japanese delegation sources. The infrastructure improvement projects concerns electrification of a railway line in the suburbs of Buenos Aires, construction of a dam for hydroelectric power generation and modernization of Argentina's telecommunication networks. The total value of Argentine orders to be placed with Japan in connection with these three projects and the Somisa expansion project is estimated at 400-500 million dollars. [Tokyo KYODO in English 1051 GMT 26 Mar 81 OW]

PRESIDENT REGRETS ATTACK ON U.S. PRESIDENT

PY310053 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0008 GMT 31 Mar 81

[Text] La Paz, 30 Mar (LATIN)--Bolivian President Luis Garcia Meza condemned today the attack perpetrated against U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

We regret very much what has happened, and it is a pity that this attack has taken place.

We feel that the U.S. people also regret the attack because it was perpetrated against a president who fights against international terrorism, General Garcia Meza stated in a press conference.

The Bolivian president held on his desk several international cables reporting on the attack on President Reagan.

MILITARY SCHOOL COMMANDER ARCE GOMEZ RESIGNS

PY302303 Paris AFP in Spanish 2247 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Text] La Paz, 30 Mar (AFP)--Col Luis Arce Gomez, former interior minister of Bolivian President Luis Garcia Meza, and current commander of the army military school, has resigned from his functions to defend himself in view of the accusations of drug trafficking he is charged with.

FORMER MINISTERS DENY INVOLVEMENT IN DRUG TRAFFIC

PY281635 Paris AFP in Spanish 0407 GMT 28 Mar 81

[Text] La Paz, 27 Mar (AFP)--The afternoon daily ULTIMA HORA of this city reported today that several former ministers of the Walter Guevara Arce administration, which ruled the country between 8 August and 1 November 1979, have categorically denied any involvement whatsoever in drug trafficking.

The denial was prompted by the statement made yesterday by Bolivian President Luis Garcia Meza that the proliferation of illegal drug trafficking took place during Guevara Arce's and Lidia Gueiler Tejada's administrations.

Guevara Arce's former minister stated that the honor and dignity of these people cannot be sullied without evidence and said that they were ready to submit to any kind of investigation.

GOVERNMENT PROTESTS NICARAGUAN SEIZURE OF PLANE

PY310242 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 31 Mar 81

[Text] The Foreign Ministry has given instructions to Jorge Escobari Cusicanqui, Bolivian ambassador to Peru, to make a formal protest to the appropriate officials in relation to an incident involving crew members of a Bolivian airplane [words indistinct] on 19 March.

The Foreign Ministry's report, released today, states that the airplane was illegally seized by members of the Nicaraguan Air Force despite the fact that the airplane was authorized to fly [words indistinct] over Nicaraguan territory and had to make an emergency landing, after which the crew members were expelled by Nicaraguan officials in an act of violation of international law.

MILITARY CADET SEEKS ASYLUM AT BRAZILIAN EMBASSY

PY271407 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2325 GMT 26 Mar 81

[Text] Brasilia, 26 Mar (LATIN)--The Brazilian Foreign Ministry has reported that a cadet of the Bolivian Military School asked for asylum at the Brazilian Embassy in La Paz today, and that there are now four refugees at the embassy. The refugee was identified as Juan Carlos Gutierrez Torrez, cadet of the Gualberto Villaroel Military School.

Retired Gen Hugo Cespedes Rivera and two cadets of the military school have already obtained diplomatic asylum in Brazil after asking for protection at the Brazilian Embassy in La Paz.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman indicated that a safe-conduct has been requested for Cadet Gutierrez Torrez, but he did not specify if the diplomatic asylum was granted.

Cespedes and the three cadets were apparently involved in a military incident with the former interior minister and current commander of the military school, Col Luis Arce Gomez, who reported that the incident was a coup attempt to overthrow Gen Luis Garcia Meza.

Safe-Conducts Issued

PY280148 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 28 Mar 81

[Excerpt] The Foreign Ministry has confirmed that it has issued four safe-conducts for persons in asylum at the Brazilian Embassy, in accordance with prevailing norms and the rules normally followed by the Bolivian Foreign Ministry.

BRIEFS

AMAZON COMMITTEE--La Paz, 13 Mar (AFP)--A permanent national committee of Amazonian cooperation was created here today. Its objective is to study the Bolivian position regarding the Amazon Basic Integration Pact. The head of the committee is Minister Secretary of Integration Capt Alberto Saens Klinsky. The members are Moises Fuentes of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Alejandro Pacheco of the Ministry of Planning, Ruben Lara of the Ministry of National Defense, and Manuel Arana of the Integration Secretariat. The committee will coordinate action with the other members of the Amazonia cooperation treaty signed in 1978--Colombia, Brazil, Venezuela, Ecuador, Guyana and Suriname. [Paris AFP in Spanish 0040 GMT 14 Mar 81 PY]

UNDER SECRETARY OF JUSTICE--The minister of interior, Gen Celso Torrelio, on 13 March swore in Dr. Isaias Pacheco Jimenez as under secretary of justice. He takes the place of Dr Ariel Carvajal. [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 14 Mar 81 p 9 PY]

CSSR INDUSTRIAL AID--Oruro, 19 Feb (PRESENCIA)--The CSSR, through its diplomatic representatives, has indicated the desire to cooperate in the industrialization of Oruro. As a token of this proposition, CSSR diplomats have suggested the installation of a construction materials factory, using slag from the smelting ovens at the Vinto metallurgical complex as raw material. Talks are being carried out. [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 20 Feb 81 p 2 PY]

PRESIDENT CONVEYS SYMPATHY TO PRESIDENT REAGAN

PY302313 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Text] President Joao Figueiredo late this afternoon sent a telegram to U.S. President Ronald Reagan, who was shot today in Washington.

The telegram states: Deeply shaken by the shocking news of the attack on your excellency, I want to convey to you my solidarity and my wishes for your immediate recovery.

Sincerely, [signed] Joao Baptista Figueiredo, president of the Federative Republic of Brazil.

FIGUEIREDO, VIOLA VOW TO STRENGTHEN TIES

PY302345 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Text] President Joao Figueiredo has received a telephone call from his Argentine counterpart, Roberto Viola, who expressed his intention and disposition to strengthen contacts and to intensify relations between the two countries.

For his part, the Brazilian president said that he shared the same views and conveyed to the new Argentine president his wishes for personal happiness and success in his administration, which began yesterday.

FIGUEIREDO DOES NOT FAVOR ELECTION POSTPONEMENT

PY301041 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 28 Mar 81 p 1

[Excerpt] Planalto Palace spokesman Carlos Atila categorically denied yesterday the possibility that the government may propose the extension of congressional mandates, thus to postpone direct elections scheduled for 1982. The spokesman said: "The government will not take the initiative, staying away from any debate on this question, thus obviously denying speculations in this regard. The president is not concerned over this matter and has nothing to do with any idea of extending congressional mandates."

GOVERNMENT CONVINCED CUBA AIDS REGION'S GUERRILLAS

PY271545 Paris AFP in Spanish 2138 GMT 26 Mar 81

[Text] Brasilia, 26 Mar (AFP)--Bernardo Pericas, spokesman of the Brazilian Foreign Ministry, said today that Brazil is convinced Cuba aids Latin American guerrillas. The spokesman added that this aid is a policy orientation of the Cuban Government, but that he could not give the media any specific information on the issue.

Answering a question on the break of diplomatic relations between Bogota and Havana, Pericas stated that that was a sovereign decision of the Colombian Government in view of certain events. It was recalled here that Colombia broke diplomatic relations with Cuba charging the latter with aiding the M-19 guerrillas, especially by supplying them with arms.

BRIEFS

NEW BRITISH AMBASSADOR--Brasilia--George Williams Harding yesterday presented to President Joao Figueiredo his credentials as the new British ambassador to Brazil. [Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 18 Mar 81 p 2 PY]

PRESIDENT SENDS MESSAGE OF SOLIDARITY TO REAGAN

PY311116 Santiago Chile Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0157 GMT 31 Mar 81

[Text] As this bulletin was being written, the president of the republic announced that he sent the following telegram to President Reagan:

The Chilean people and government reject and repudiate the attack to which U.S. President Ronald Reagan has fallen victim and state their solidarity with the American people and government at this difficult time. The following is the full text of the telegram:

Mr Ronald Reagan, President of the United States of America, Washington, D.C.: In view of the deplorable attack to which you have fallen victim, I express our fervent wishes for your prompt recovery. This sinister act of terrorism is most repudiable and the Chilean people and the government over which I preside reject and repulsive it and express our solidarity with the American people and government. At this difficult time I renew the wishes we have expressed for your prompt recovery. Yours very truly, Augusto Pinochet Ugarte, general of the army, president of the Republic of Chile.

Foreign Minister's Repudiation

PT311131 Santiago Chile Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0201 GMT 31 Mar 81

[Text] Today Foreign Minister Rene Rojas Galdames repudiated the attack, in Washington, against U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

The minister pointed out that the president of the republic had sent a message to U.S. President wishing him a prompt recovery and repudiating the attack as soon as he had received the confirmation of the news.

Official and private sectors throughout the nation have expressed their indignation on the attack against President Reagan and the other persons who were seriously injured by the bullets fired at them in Washington.

JUNTA MEMBER BACKS RETURN OF POLITICAL PARTIES

PY280242 Paris AFP in Spanish 0132 GMT 26 Mar 81

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 26 Mar (AFP)—Gen Fernando Matthei, a member of the Chilean Government junta, today expressed his support for the return of the political parties, which have been recessed for the past 7 years.

Matthei, who is also commander in chief of the Chilean Air Force (FACH), also confirmed the interest of the FAC in acquiring electronic components from Israel, where he visited last month.

In declarations disseminated here by the biweekly magazine COSAS, Gen Matthei reiterated his previous expressions favoring the functioning of the parties, which in Chile were declared dissolved by the government of Gen Augusto Pinochet in 1973.

The exercising of power is a noble, useful and necessary thing by definition, otherwise we would not have a state, and the organizations for attaining this are the political parties, he said.

Because of this, he added, they can rely on all my support.

Matthei refused, however, to mention a firm period for this return to party life, indicating that before the next 8 years end a statute regulating the activity of those organizations will be issued.

The statute will be based on the new constitution which came into force on 11 March, the provisions of which still outlaw Marxist groups, he pointed out.

In reference to his recent trip to Israel, the air force chief disclosed that it is very probably that in the short term and in the long term we will make many acquisitions there.

Without going into details, he indicated that they would buy electronic components, "which one does not show in a parade but which may make all the difference when used for an aircraft or in a command post or at a communications center."

Asked about the possible lifting of the embargo on military aid which the United States is maintaining toward Chile, Gen Matthei appeared indifferent.

We are not seeking the lifting of the embargo because we do not need to buy arms there, the Chilean junta member asserted to the magazine COSAS.

FOREIGN POLICY TO BECOME MORE AGGRESSIVE

PY281338 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 28 Mar 81

[Text] Foreign Minister Rojas Galcames has indicated that Chilean foreign policy will again fulfill its real mission of participating in world affairs. The minister stated that Chilean foreign policy, somewhat on the defensive up to now, will now become more aggressive--in the best sense of the word--in all international organizations.

The minister made these remarks at the conclusion of the second general meeting of Chilean ambassadors abroad held in the Diego Portales Building this week. He explained that the meeting was a complete success because information was exchanged and a study of international affairs was made in the light of the new Chilean situation.

The foreign minister emphasized that President Pinochet gave the ambassadors clear and precise instructions in view of the continually changing world situation and the new Chilean constitution. The minister said that because of the meeting, Chilean ambassadors are in a better position to be representatives of the new Chilean situation abroad.

The minister added that the ambassadors' reports show that the Chilean situation abroad is positive, that there is an obvious and visible improvement. He said that in some cases there is admiration and respect for our internal reorganization and for the achievements made by the government.

He also explained that the appointment of Gen Enrique Morel Donoso as roving ambassador is very important for a modern and active Foreign Ministry. He added that General Morel Donoso will visit Chilean missions abroad in accordance with a special program on instructions from President Pinochet.

The minister also pointed out that Chilean relations with Argentina are normal and that Chile has faith and certainty that a final solution will be found through the pope's mediation.

CHILEAN ENVOY HAILS FRENCH STAND AT GENEVA TALKS

PY261416 Paris AFP in Spanish 0542 GMT 26 Mar 81

[Text] Santiago, 25 Mar (AFP)--Chilean Ambassador to Paris Juan Jose Fernandez emphasized here today the change observed in the French position at the Geneva Human Rights Commission, where until recently France was voting against Chile and now it is abstaining. He added: France even promoted, through its favorable vote, the approval of an amendment designed to eliminate the ad hoc overseer of the status of human rights in Chile which is, in our opinion, the essence of the discriminatory treatment applied against us.

The diplomat conveyed his satisfaction over the statement of support for Chile expressed recently by a delegation of French congressmen who visited Chile. Ten days ago, a mission led by Deputy Georges Tranchant of the RPR (Rally for the Republic, neo-Gaullist) issued a communique emphasizing the socioeconomic progress made by the government of Gen Augusto Pinochet over the past 7 and 1/2 years following the ouster of the civilian government of socialist President Salvador Allende. The delegation consisted of Deputies Rene Freit (Republican), Henri Colombier (Social Democrat) and Serge Charles (Gaullist), and Senator Guy de la Verpilliere (Republican).

Fernandez added: "I believe the visit of these people was very useful because they are directly associated with congressional activities and were able to personally evaluate the Chilean reality."

He also emphasized the growing significance of their bilateral trade by noting that Chile now places fifth among the French trade partners in Latin America, and France possibly places sixth on the list of Chilean foreign trade partners. According to French statistical data, Chilean-French trade increased by 79 percent in 1979. French exports amounted to 627,208,000 francs while its imports from Chile reached 707,043,000 francs. Thus the trade balance is favorable to Chile by 79,835,000 francs.

Fernandez, who has been in the country attending a general meeting of Chilean ambassadors with President Pinochet, also stated that France is also markedly furthering its scientific and technical cooperation to Chile.

CNI DIRECTOR SAYS SUBVERSIVES UNDER CONTROL

PY261432 Paris AFP in Spanish 0355 GMT 26 Mar 81

[Excerpts] Santiago, Chile, 25 Mar (AFP)--It was officially reported in this capital today that the Chilean Government security services have brought under control the wave of subversive violence unleashed during recent months. Gen Humberto Gordon, director of the National Information Center (CNI), said: It is a fact that there was a minor escalation of violence, but thank God we have controlled it.

General Gordon gave a lecture on his organization's activities to about 50 Chilean ambassadors who are holding meetings here, by order of President Augusto Pinochet, to review Chilean foreign policy.

Regarding the case of the man and wife, both of them teachers, who took refuge in the French Embassy in Santiago on 10 March, the CNI chief said: For us, the case of the French Embassy refugees was an indirect victory. Gordon said that Juan Arellano and his wife Marcela Espinoza are terrorists and members of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR). He added that the couple felt so unsafe that they decided to take refuge in the embassy where they still remain.

The CNI director said, however, that these leftist groups go underground where they plan their actions and then reappear unexpectedly. He then explained that as these groups are organized in cells, when a cell is disbanded, other cells appear and so on.

BRIEFS

GOVERNMENT AUCTIONS LAND--Next month the Chilean Government will auction seven islands situated 1,600 km south of Santiago in the Moraleda Channel as part of the program to transfer government-owned land to the private sector. The following are the islands to be put up for sale: MacPhearson, Garcia, San Francisco, Verdugo, Matilde, Filomena and Florencia. (Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 30 Mar 81 PY)

TURBAY AYALA CONDEMNS ATTACK ON U.S. PRESIDENT

PA310458 Bogota Cadena Radical Super in Spanish 2330 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Text] Bogota--Colombian President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala today condemned the attack against his U.S. colleague, Ronald Reagan, and voiced hopes for his prompt return to the White House.

The Presidential Palace released the Colombian president's message at approximately 1730. It reads as follows:

Upon expressing to you in my name and that of the Colombian people our categorical condemnation of the criminal attempt on your life, I most heartily congratulate you, your family and the great American nation for your having survived the homicidal attack of the presumed assassin.

May the wounds sustained by you, my dear President, and by your loyal aides result in no serious consequences.

I sincerely hope we will all be able to hear that you have overcome the effects of this repulsive attack and returned to the White House to continue the harsh and historical battle in which you and your country are engaged to defend peace and freedom.

Cordially,

[Signed] Julio Cesar Turbay, president of the Republic of Colombia.

Foreign Minister Regretful

PA310453 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 2330 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Text] Bogota--Colombian Foreign Minister Carlos Lemos Simmons tonight sent to his U.S. counterpart, Alexander Haig, the regrets of the Colombian Government for the attack against President Ronald Reagan.

Lemos' message reads as follows:

Bogota, 30 March 1981
His Excellency Alexander Haig
U.S. Secretary of State
Washington, United States of America

I deeply deplore the reprehensible attack against his excellency, the U.S. President, and trust he will soon recover.

I express solidarity to your excellency in my own name and that of the Colombian Foreign Ministry during this trying moment.

Very truly yours,

[Signed] Carlos Lemos Simmons, foreign affairs minister.

GOVERNMENT SUPPORTS PROPOSAL FOR MEETING ON CUBA

PA270403 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 26 Mar 81

[Text] Colombia today seconded Panama's motion for a hemispheric conference to analyze relations with Cuba and the charges against the Cuban Government of intervening in the internal affairs of other countries.

Colombian Foreign Minister Carlos Lemos Simmons today said in Bogota that it was an excellent idea to have such a meeting which would include all the countries of the continent to analyze current relations with Cuba because there is enough evidence to prove that the policy of Castro's regime is not necessarily the most friendly and that it has every intention to intervene in the internal affairs of Latin American countries.

Minister Lemos Simmons told Caracol Network today that his country, which suspended diplomatic relations with Cuba last Monday after accusing the Cuban regime of training and arming a group of more than 80 men who invaded Colombia on 7 March, has suffered in its own flesh from the actions of the Cuban Government which is intending to destabilize the Colombian constitutional regime. For this reason, Minister Lemos Simmons feels that the Panamanian proposal is just right.

Minister Lemos Simmons said that it was very significant that the Panamanian Government which had maintained friendly relations with Castro's regime should be now suggesting a revision of the relations with Cuba. As we know, Panama was mentioned by members of the 19 April Movement who were captured on the Ecuadorean border, who said that they were trained for 3 months in Cuba and afterwards flew to Panama where they purchased arms before returning to Colombia.

GOVERNMENT TO INSIST ON CUBA RETURNING HIJACKERS

PA282245 Paris AFP in Spanish 0448 GMT 28 Mar 81

[Text] Bogota, 27 Mar (PL)—The Colombian Government reported today that it will insist on the Cuban Government extraditing the alleged guerrillas who hijacked a commercial airliner in December and who were granted asylum in Cuba.

Foreign Minister Carlos Lemos said that the request will be made through the Swiss Embassy in Havana, which is handling Colombian affairs after the break in relations between Colombia and Cuba.

The foreign minister said he is not too optimistic about receiving a reply "because if we did not receive a reply when we had relations, it will be even harder now when we don't have relations."

He said that that there was not a complete break with Cuba, because "that would amount to war" and that trade relations are continuing.

He also said that the break in relations with Cuba, as of now, has not affected relations with other socialist countries.

The minister said that vigilance at Colombian airports will be doubled to prevent "hijackings" although he said that "hijackings are no longer news."

M-19's PORTUGUESE WEAPONS UNDER INVESTIGATION

PA301239 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0211 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Text] Bogota, 29 Mar (EFE)--The Colombian Government is consulting with the Portuguese authorities, after having ascertained that the weapons taken from the 19 April Movement [M-19] were made in Portugal.

Brig Gen Bernardo Lema Henao, the deputy commander of the army, said that the arsenal taken from the M-19, with which it attempted to invade the country through the south, was brought from Europe to a Central American country and there clandestinely delivered to the subversives.

The general said that an investigation is being made to determine who were "the intermediaries" in the delivery of the weapons brought to the country through the Pacific Ocean some 20 days ago. The weapons were seized by the army.

Colombian Ambassador in Lisbon Jaime Serrano Rueda is making the respective investigations in that city.

FORMER M-19 HOSTAGE RECOUNTS TALKS WITH BATEMAN

PA291917 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1630 GMT 29 Mar 81

[Text] Bogota, 29 Mar (EFE)--Jaime Bateman Cayon, top leader of the 19 April Movement (M-19), is waiting for the army to come after him in the mountains in southern Colombia, where he is leading one of the M-19 columns.

Armando Florez Silva, the released government secretary of the Putumayo Intendancy, said this today during an interview with the Todelar Radio Network.

According to the government official, Bateman asked him to tell the army "that I am here in the mountains and for it to come after me."

Florez Silva was taken hostage by the subversive group during the attack on the town of Mocoa in southern Colombia more than 15 days ago. The attack led to the most spectacular action of the military forces to disband the M-19.

Florez Silva was released early last week, and in the interview with Todelar, he confirmed that the top leader of the group has not left Colombia, and on the contrary, is willing to fight against the regular troops in the mountains in the south.

The government official said that during his captivity he gained Bateman's confidence. He said Bateman admitted the setback the movement had suffered with the loss of the arsenal the army had confiscated and the capture of some of the members of the organization's leadership.

During the military actions in southern Colombia against the M-19, more than 80 militants of the group were captured, including one of its leaders, doctor and former legislator Carlos Toledo Plata, and Rosenberg Pabon Pabon, the famous "Commander Uno."

Florez Silva said that Bateman directed the seizure of Mocoa, during which several civilians and soldiers were killed. He said that the guerrilla columns fled to the mountains after the military offensive, during which some battles which led to the captures and casualties took place.

He commented that Bateman is worried about the confiscation of the arsenal, but "they are determined to wage a war, knowing full well that in it there are failures, setbacks, deaths... he said all of this is part of that war."

Asked if Bateman admits that his guerrillas were trained in Cuba, Florez Silva said that Bateman told him that many of those who came through Narino had left for Central America to negotiate the weapons in the black market. [sentence as received]

He added that Bateman said that this is not the first time that they have entered through different borders "and they showed me the weapons they had there, brought in through those routes."

He indicated that the guerrilla column that Bateman leads in the southern mountains is made up of youths with an average age of 21.

Almost all of them are peasants and many of them are illiterate. They eat a lot of meat, canned food, beans and plantains, and when the supplies are depleted, they eat only plantains.

Florez Silva said that he played chess with Bateman, read the newspapers and even listened to the radio.

GOVERNMENT SENDS REGRETS OVER ATTACK ON REAGAN

PA310152 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0029 GMT 31 Mar 81

[Text] Quito, 30 Mar (LATIN)--Augusto Alvarado, public information secretary of Ecuador, tonight regretted the attempt today in Washington against President Ronald Reagan.

"What I can say as spokesman of the government is that it is unfortunate that such bloody acts should take place in a country that represents democracy, freedom, and above all, respect for human life," Alvarado told the press.

"It is most unfortunate because President Reagan is a man who holds that post by the will of the U.S. people," he added.

"Such acts as these should be regretted as they can bring mourning to democracy," the information secretary noted.

PRESIDENT ROLDOS ENDS STATE OF EMERGENCY

PA310422 Paris AFP in Spanish 0212 GMT 31 Mar 81

[Text] Quito, 30 Mar (AFP)--Ecuadorean President Jaime Roldos Aguilera today ended the state of national emergency which was established on 28 January when the border conflict between Ecuador and Peru broke out.

This is a step for the forthcoming reopening of the Ecuadorean-Peruvian border, observers here believe.

The legal basis for the emergency was based on Article 78, No 7, letter N, of the constitution which permits the president "to declare the national territory a security zone, while adhering to the law."

President Roldos had lifted the state of emergency partially on 13 February, having left in force only the point declaring Ecuador a zone of national security.

The powers conferred on the president by the constitution after assuming all the powers entailed in the declaration of the state of emergency were not used in practice.

Among the powers which could have been used by Roldos during the recent state of emergency was the advance collection of taxes as well as the imposing of additional taxes, the investing of the government's funds in the purchase of arms, transferring the site of the government's funds in the purchase of arms, transferring the site of the government to any point in the country, the temporary closing or takeover of ports, the imposing of press censorship and the suspending of constitutional guarantees.

BARRERA CONFIRMS REDUCTION OF RELATIONS WITH CUBA

PA302C25 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0333 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Text] Quito, 29 Mar (EFE)--The deterioration of Ecuadorean-Cuban diplomatic relations, in the wake of the recent evacuation of the Ecuadorean Embassy in Havana, was confirmed today.

Relations between the two countries, which were reestablished in August 1979 after a 17-year interruption, henceforth will be handled "and for a prudent period of time," according to an official bulletin, by the charges d'affaires and will virtually hang by a thread.

The bulletin, which picked up the statement made by the Ecuadorean foreign minister on a television program, explains that the maintenance of relations does not depend on ideological trends, but on the level of fulfillment on the part of Cuba of the conditions that were demanded by Ecuador following the evacuation of the embassy by a group of persons who took three officials hostage.

The requisites were the presentation of due satisfaction and respect for the security and physical integrity of the 14 persons who stormed the embassy on 13 February, Foreign Minister Alfonso Barrera recalled.

Cuban Vice Foreign Minister Ricardo Alarcon, after 1 week of negotiations here, presented last Wednesday to the Ecuadorean Government apologies for the incident and offered to permit the participation of representatives of Ecuador in the trial against the occupants.

Considering the fulfillment of the second point still pending, notwithstanding the official Cuban offer, Barrera noted today that the Ecuadorean Government has resolved "to subject to this condition the eventual return of its ambassador and to maintain for a prudent period of time the two missions headed by charges d'affaires."

However, today the foreign minister reported that they had gone even further, indicating that the continuation of the ties will also be subject to the scrupulous fulfillment "by Cuba and other countries," which he did not name, of the principle of nonintervention.

Ecuador will not accept in any manner that foreign agents disrupt domestic policy or promote subversion, Barrera stated. He condemned political violence and stated that peace in Ecuador is too treasured a value, comparable only to that of liberty, to risk it.

Finally, the bulletin states that the government's steps in the international order will be "guided by these concepts and by the dignity of the country." It is expected that on Monday the Ecuadorean Foreign Ministry will respond formally to the Cuban Government's note delivered by Vice Foreign Minister Alarcon.

FOREIGN MINISTRY REPLIES TO PERUVIAN DOCUMENT

PA291608 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 29 Mar 81

[Ecuadorean Foreign Ministry communique--date not specified--read by announcer]

[Text] With reference to Communique 007-81 of the Peruvian Foreign Ministry that was published by the Peruvian press today, the Ecuadorean Foreign Ministry states the following:

1. Landmarks were not placed in the zone of the conflict because the geographic accident, "divortium aquarum," between the Santiago and Zamora Rivers was nonexistent, as was proven with the aerophotogrammetric map of the U.S. (?Air Force) that was delivered to the two countries in 1947.
2. If the 1942 Rio de Janeiro Protocol cannot be physically and juridically executed in that zone, Peru cannot claim it, even more so when it repeatedly recognized in the past that it never had possession or any right there.
3. The aforementioned zone was not the subject of the ruling of Dias de Aguilar, who in this regard said: The demarcation should be made through the Zamora-Santiago divortium aquarum without concern as to whether or not it is the line of the Condor Mountain Range. Moreover, that ruling, which is cited by Peru without justification or cause, was issued in 1947. How could the ruling deal with a problem that had not yet emerged?
4. Ecuador made all possible efforts to solve through bilateral contacts the problem that emerged in the Zamora-Santiago zone due to the nonexistence of the water parting as established by the protocol.

Since Peru, on the contrary, refused to cooperate to overcome this problem, the Ecuadorean Government submitted it to the Governments of Argentina, Brazil, Chile and the United States which, in a note on 16 May 1956, made to the two parties a very important suggestion for the settlement of the disagreements: to get the data of an aerophotogrammetric survey and land observations of the Zamora-Santiago zone.

Ecuador immediately accepted this suggestion. However, Peru, foreseeing the adverse consequences to its thesis, rejected this investigation aimed at a greater clarification of the actual geographic situation.

5. The border problem that Ecuador has with Peru cannot be reduced to the unilateral acceptance of the viewpoints of only one of the parties based solely on the argument of its weapons.

As the Ecuadorean Foreign Ministry already stated in its 29 January communique, Ecuador invites Peru to participate in negotiations in which the two countries, with the help of friendly countries, will confront the problem with frankness and honest intentions and will solve it.

6. The Ecuadorean Government shares the view on the need to renew commercial and trade activities on the border zone.

FOREIGN MINISTER EXPLAINS STAND ON BORDER ISSUE

PA301602 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Text] In an interview granted to two independent television stations of Quito and Guayaquil, Foreign Minister Alfonso Barrera referred to the current situation of the Ecuadorean and Peruvian forces in the Condor Mountain Range and the border problem between the two countries.

The foreign minister said that during the recent conflict and the subsequent negotiations, Ecuador had to draw up two strategies: one in case Peru told the truth and fulfilled its commitments and another in case the opposite occurred. The latter has been so frequent that one could almost say that it has become a norm of conduct.

This is why the Ecuadorean forces were withdrawn very gradually while reports were obtained from Argentina, Chile, Brazil and the United States regarding the way that Peru was fulfilling its commitment to withdraw its troops. The foreign minister said that when the four countries notified us that the Peruvian military movements were merely a show and in truth were only just the relieving of troops, the Ecuadorean forces stopped their withdrawal at the summit of the mountain range. This was established in a message from Ecuador to the four countries and was subsequently reiterated in my note replying to Admiral Dubois.

In effect, the foreign minister indicated that at the beginning of the dialogue he personally spoke with representatives of those four countries to tell them that Ecuador could not accept them as guarantors, and that even less applicable was their status as guarantors for a zone in which the Rio de Janeiro protocol does not establish borders because it refers to a nonexistent geographic accident.

The foreign minister said that all subsequent steps have been based on this position. He added that the four countries received a formal message which called attention to the site of the confrontations on the eastern slope of the Condor Mountain Range. Ecuador said that if a demilitarized zone was ever established, this zone would have to be on that eastern slope rather than on the western slope.

With the same spirit, the foreign minister added, I presented to Argentina, Chile, Brazil and the United States my well-known note in reply to Admiral Dubois' note. Using the Peruvian arguments, I stated in that note that Peru lacked titles and even claims in the zone that extends from the summit of the Condor Mountain Range to the Santiago River. I was careful in using Peruvian arguments to counteract the current aspirations of that country.

There are two clear facts regarding the aforementioned. Ecuador was able to eliminate Peru's military objective, that is, the placement of landmarks in the Condor Mountain Range under the use of force, and the current situation is clear: Any Peruvian advance on the eastern slope of the Condor Mountain Range is surreptitious, de facto and contrary to Peru's commitments with the four observers that must make their report to the OAS.

FOREIGN MINISTER ON M-19 GUERRILLAS IN COLOMBIA

PA301510 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0339 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Text] Quito, 30 Mar (EFE)--Ecuadorean Foreign Minister Alfonso Barrera today said that he is in touch with the Colombian Government, with regard to watching over the physical integrity, life and rights of the members of the 19 April Movement (M-19) who entered Ecuadorean territory.

A group of 48 guerrillas entered the border province of Esmeraldas 2 weeks ago, fleeing the Colombian Armed Forces and seeking political asylum, but they were captured by the Ecuadorean Army and returned to Colombia.

Speaking in a television program, the foreign minister said that "in the assessment of permitting a foreigner to enter into the country, the criteria regarding internal security falls under the purview of the Government Ministry and that of external security falls under the National Defense Ministry."

He added that a clause of the 1905 agreement on trade and navigation between Ecuador and Colombia was applied in turning over the guerrillas to Colombia.

He also said that "the entrance of foreigners in the country is not a right but a privilege that can be granted or denied."

He said the contacts concerning the guerrillas are based on humanitarian reasons.

DEFENSE MINISTRY KEEPING M-19 GUERRILLA WEAPONS

PA301507 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2353 GMT 29 Mar 81

[Text] Quito, 19 Mar (EFE)--The weapons seized from a 48-member group of the 19 April Movement [M-19] which entered Ecuadorean territory 2 weeks ago and was turned to the Colombian Army are being kept at the Defense Ministry.

According to the Sunday issue of the newspaper EL TIEMPO, the list of weapons is the following: 10 7.62-caliber German G-3 rifles, 4 2.62-caliber American bazookas with their respective grenades, offensive and defensive grenades, antipersonnel mines, 7.62 and .45-caliber ammunition, magazines and .45-caliber American M-9 submachineguns.

Meanwhile, the Ecuadorean offices of the Human Rights Commission and Amnesty International have asked the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Parliament to guarantee the integrity of certain guerrillas who are still at large in the northern region in Esmeraldas, near the border with Colombia.

These organizations also asked that the guerrillas be granted the right to asylum according to the treaty signed in Caracas in 1954.

PRESIDENT 'DEEPLY CONCERNED' OVER ATTACK ON REAGAN

PA310311 Paris AFP in Spanish 0251 GMT 31 Mar 81

[Text] Mexico City, 30 Mar (AFP)--Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo said that he felt "deeply concerned over the absurd attack against President Ronald Reagan."

Lopez Portillo, who was told of the attack during a tour of one of the provinces, said that he will send a personal message to Reagan expressing hopes for his speedy recovery.

REPORTAGE ON ITALIAN PRESIDENT PERTINI'S VISIT

Welcomed by Lopez Portillo

FL270152 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0116 GMT 27 Mar 81

[By Enrique Alvarez Manilla]

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 26 Mar (NOTIMEX)--Welcoming his Italian counterpart, Alessandro Pertini, President Jose Lopez Portillo noted that Mexico is proudly Latin American and that this identifies Mexico with Italy. Lopez Portillo also told Pertini that we were receiving him in a double capacity: as president and as the symbolic man, the freedom fighter.

The Mexican president was referring with these last words to Pertini's background. Pertini was a militant in the Italian resistance against Nazism and the Mussolini regime.

Lopez Portillo expressed hopes that their talks would be useful for both nations and, to some extent, for mankind. We expect many good things from your experience and wisdom, he said.

The Italian president arrived at 1822 hours on board an Alitalia flight in the company of a dozen of his officials and nearly 50 newsmen from several Italian communication media.

The Mexican president stood at one end of the red carpet placed on the platform of the presidential hangar to receive President Pertini, 85, a member of the Italian Socialist Party and president since July 1978. Following customary honors (a 21-gun salute and the playing of the anthems of the two countries), both presidents delivered brief speeches followed by a tight embrace.

The two presidents then reviewed the honor unit made up of assault troops, after which Lopez Portillo introduced his officials to the illustrious guest, who also greeted the diplomatic corps accredited here. The Mexican president later accompanied his guest to the hotel where he is staying. The president returned immediately to the official Los Pinos residence to resume his work.

Responds to Welcome

FL270229 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0135 GMT 27 Mar 81

[By Enrique Alvarez Manilla]

[Text] Mexico City, 26 Mar (NOTIMEX)--Mexico and Italy will always defend peace in the world and the welfare of all mankind, said Italian President Alessandro Pertini on arriving this afternoon in Mexico on an official 4-day [as received] visit. The Italian president made this remark in responding to President Jose Lopez Portillo's welcome at the presidential hangar platform.

It must be noted that this is the first visit an Italian president makes to Mexico, Pertini said, and it has very special significance not only because of the historical and political affinities between the two countries, but because of the great potential for more extensive and closer cooperation in all fields. The Italian president said that in addition to the historical and political similarities between Mexico and Italy, there are also the difficulties that led both countries to shake off the yoke of foreign domination and attain national independence.

Mexico and Italy can still do much more in conditions of total equality in the area of bilateral cooperation, and for mutual development based on the similarities of their political systems and their concurrence on democratic freedoms, human rights and specific common interests, he said.

I shall proceed in the next few days to examine, together with my assistants, the course of and prospects for developing relations within the context of the current world situation, Alessandro Pertini concluded.

Begins Talks

FL272047 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2000 GMT 27 Mar 81

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 27 Mar (NOTIMEX)--President Jose Lopez Portillo opened talks this morning with the president of the Republic of Italy, Alessandro Pertini, in his office at the official Los Pinos residence. The talks lasted 1 hour.

Moments before they began their private talks, the two presidents exchanged presents. Pertini then decorated the Mexican president with the Great Order of Merit of the Republic of Italy. President Lopez Portillo in turn decorated his guest with the Great Order of the Aztec Eagle and thanked the Italian president for his interest in intensifying relations between the two countries.

Addresses Legislature

FL272109 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2010 GMT 27 Mar 81

[By Ubaldo Diaz]

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 27 Mar (NOTIMEX)--Italian President Alessandro Pertini today warned mankind about the madness in men, who have accumulated 50,000 atomic bombs; the figure is staggering because 5,000 would be more than enough to destroy all mankind. The Italian president was addressing the members of the Mexican legislature. In his speech, he came out against dictatorships, tanks and political police, and spoke in favor of freedom and democracy.

Mr Joaquin Gamboa Pascoe welcomed the Italian president in the name of the legislature. Gamboa Pascoe condemned colonialism, imperialism and hegemony, tools of international injustice which are doomed to disappear.

He noted that the times call for dialogue, mutual respect and interdependence. Mexico rejects interventionism and believes that all nations must democratically determine the government that best suits their interests, as in the case of El Salvador.

Ends Official Part of Trip

AU282014 Rome ANSA in English 1915 GMT 28 Mar 81

[Text] Mexico City, 28 Mar (ANSA)--Italian President Alessandro Pertini wound up the official portion of his visit to Mexico today amid indications of substantial progress achieved in areas of political and economic cooperation between the two countries since his arrival here Thursday.

One of the major developments on the policy level as a result of Pertini's state visit was agreement that Italy and Mexico "can work together" to put an end to civil strife in El Salvador and, on the economic cooperation front a 500 million dollar financial agreement was signed to enhance the prospects of the participation of Italian businesses and industries in Mexico's development plan.

It was also reported that the two countries have opened high-level talks on the export of Mexican crude to Italy.

Two protocols on technical cooperation signed during the Italian head of state's visit covered the coordination of Italian activities in bilateral cooperation and professional training in the fields of electronics and telecommunications.

The Italian foreign minister, Emilio Colombo, accompanying Pertini for his state visits to Mexico, Colombia, Costa Rica and Portugal struck a balance of the talks in Mexico City when he reported that these consultations were affirmative on the political level and satisfactory as regards economic cooperation.

Talks included two meetings between the Italian head of state and Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo and consultations between Colombo and the Mexican foreign minister, Jorge Castaneda.

Pertini also delivered an address to the Mexican parliament yesterday on themes of democracy and repression. In this context, Pertini identified the country's parliament as "a beacon of democracy" for the Latin American countries under the heel of dictatorships.

It was reported that in the course of the talks held by the Italian head of state and foreign minister with Lopez Portillo and Castaneda, both sides found themselves in substantial agreement on major international issues.

Colombo disclosed, by way of example that no conflict existed between the refusal of Mexico to submit to the two world superpowers and the position of Italy, a country which despite membership in the Atlantic alliance, has urged the creation of a "European center of influence" around NATO for active participation in policies of the alliance.

Another point of agreement between the two countries cited the Italian foreign minister is in the area of the need for the erection of a new international economic order.

In connection with this major issue, Colombo said that he made no secret of Italy's failure to understand why the country was not included on the list of 23 countries which will meet in Mexico in October for discussions aimed at reviving the North-South dialogue.

As regards the situation in El Salvador, the foreign minister said that, at first, it appeared that Mexico supported the revolutionary front operating in the Central American nation but now, like Italy, Mexico favors a negotiated political settlement to the crisis.

"It is possible to say that Italy and Mexico can work together, each along its own path, for seeking out an understanding between the democratic forces within the front and the junta, or the moderate elements within its framework," Colombo said and added that he did not have "mediation" in mind.

The Italian head of state will leave here for a two-day visit to Colombia, Monday and Tuesday, before continuing on to Costa Rica on his return to Italy, Portugal. [as received]

Cooperation Agreements Signed

FL281924 MexicoCity NOTIMEX in Spanish 1858 GMT 28 Mar 81

[Text] Mexico City, 28 Mar (NOTIMEX)--The Foreign Secretariat has released a press communique announcing that several agreements were signed today between Mexico and Italy at the official Los Pinos residence, in the presence of Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo and Italian President Alessandro Pertini.

The communique stated that the first of these is the basic technical cooperation agreement by which the parties promise to foster technical development cooperation programs to the extent of their capabilities and needs. Foreign Secretary Jorge Castaneda signed for Mexico while Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo did so for Italy.

A second agreement reached today provides for technical cooperation in establishing a center to train professional technicians in specialties important to the industrial development of Mexico. It will be set up in Coatzacoalcos, Veracruz, and named Mexican-Italian Center for National Professional Technical Education. Public Education Secretary Fernando Solana signed for Mexico and Minister Colombo for Italy.

Deputy secretary of the treasury and public credit, Jesus Silva Herzog, and Dr Colombo both spoke of a financial agreement that will be finalized in due time and is aimed at intensifying economic relations between Mexico and Italy through financial cooperation in several economic fields. This financial agreement also provides for a line of credit of up to 500 million dollars to be used in the purchase of installations, machinery, equipment and other capital goods of Italian manufacture. The agreement also envisions the possibility of strengthening cooperation between the central banks of the two countries, using previously granted lines of credit and activating mechanisms for coinvestment.

Presidents' Remarks at Dinner

FL281728 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0625 GMT 28 Mar 81

[By Enrique Alvarez Manilla]

[Text] Mexico City, 27 Mar (NOTIMEX)--In the present circumstances, development and peace cannot be treated as mere topics in a bureaucratic agenda; the crisis must be confronted with urgent and deep solutions. So spoke President Jose Lopez Portillo tonight before his Italian counterpart, Alessandro Pertini, at the dinner he hosted in his honor. He criticized every growing military budgets in face of the misery, forecasts of starvation, economic stagnation and inflation in the world.

In order for solutions in the search for peace to be lasting ones, we must start from the principle that history is but a stage where the unending struggle between the forces of good and evil is played out, Lopez Portillo said. The Mexican chief of state underscored the need for a change in mentality and a return to the origins of civilization to understand the present and build a rational future.

The Mexican president said that world unity had been destroyed by the uncontrolled progress of science and technology; to direct and control this mass of knowledge presupposes a renewed humanism that does not belong to any nation in particular. The threat of an atomic war is shaking the foundations of that peaceful planetary home that the United Nations promised then; the excessive concentration of political, economic and technological power has created veritable enclaves of the future amid societies that are moving back in the direction of archaic ways of living.

Addressing his illustrious guest, Lopez Portillo said that Pertini undoubtedly understood, in his capacity as lawyer and antifascist fighter, that right, peace and democracy are inseparable. That is why, he went on, it is difficult to understand [as received] Mexico's efforts to steadfastly try to enrich its own political institutions and, at the same time, try to foster peaceful coexistence among nations.

Noting the need for democrats to defend republican traditions and youth participation, the Italian president, Alessandro Pertini, criticized populist paternalism that conceals reactionary tyranny and antipopular repression. Expressing thanks for the dinner the Mexican president hosted in his honor, the Italian president noted that political and social freedom is one and indivisible. It is a plant that must be tended with great affection and care by all those who believe in it.

Alessandro Pertini said that Italy and Mexico know of the harsh trials that must be experienced to win the invaluable prize of freedom and that they are aware that without it there is no democracy, true justice or authentic social progress. He asserted that Italy and the European Community watch developments in some Central American and Caribbean countries with great concern because these situations illustrate the difficulties in reconciling the demands of peace with the evolution of internal situations as long as totalitarian regimes opposing democracy exist.

He added that relations between his country and Mexico gain importance at present in the context of the international situation, characterized by distressing crises and drawn out states of tension that lead to assume that dialogue between the two big powers has become difficult again.

Alessandro Pertini said that when the Mexico-Italy joint economic and financial commission concluded their talks, possibilities emerged of Italian participation in the great development plans that Mexico is carrying out to become a colossus in world economy in the final decades of this century. I hope that nothing escapes those government officials involved in this powerful cooperation endeavour so that the decisions of the joint commission can be fully implemented in both Italy and Mexico.

1980 OIL, GAS PRODUCTION FIGURES REPORTED

FL260223 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0041 GMT 26 Mar 81

[Text] Mexico City, 25 Mar (NOTIMEX)--Crude oil production in Mexico in 1980 increased 30.8 percent over the previous year; from a total production of 93.9 million metric tons in 1979, it rose to 122.8 million in 1980. At the same time, natural gas production increased from 30,159,000,000 cubic meters to 36,767,000,000, which represents a 21.9 percent increase [over 1979].

This has been reported by the Secretariat of Programming and Budget in its monthly economic information bulletin. The bulletin emphasizes that more than 55 percent of last year's crude oil production was processed by Mexican refineries. It also reported that liquid gas production rose from 5.3 million cubic meters to 7.0 million.

OIL PRICE REDUCTIONS NOT BEING CONSIDERED

PA272145 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0039 GMT 25 Mar 81

[Text] Mexico City, 24 Mar (EFE)--Mexico is not considering the possibility of reducing the cost of its "Maya" (heavy) crude oil for export, a spokesman of the state-owned Pemex told this agency today.

The spokesman described as "speculation" a report published in the PETROLEUM INTELLIGENCE WEEKLY, an American magazine, on the possibility of reducing the cost of the "Maya" crude oil, which is currently \$34.50 per barrel.

The source recalled that since Mexico began exporting oil, it has never decreased the prices of its hydrocarbons.

He added that the American reports cannot be regarded as true, since Mexico has not yet begun its talks with clients to revise the price of its crude oil in April.

The price revision, he explained, does not in any way mean that the price of the crude oil will be hiked, since at times it has remained unchanged.

He said in conclusion that Mexico's light (istmo) oil currently costs \$38.50 per barrel.

PRESIDENT ROYO DEPLORES ATTACK ON REAGAN

PA310010 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2345 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Text] Panama City, 30 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--Panamanian President Aristides Royo tonight sent a message to Washington deploring the attack suffered today by his U.S. colleague, Ronald Reagan.

In the message to Reagan, Royo wishes him a speedy recovery.

Sources of the Panamanian Presidency said that Royo is following the information on the attack which is arriving from the United States.

At the home of National Guard Commander Gen Omar Torrijos, it was reported that he has also been keeping abreast of the reports from Washington from the very moment it was learned that Reagan had been wounded.

Panamanian radio and television stations interrupted their normal broadcasts to give the reports which are arriving from Washington through the international news agencies.

The television channel of the U.S. Army stationed in Panama is broadcasting continuously from Washington via satellite all the information on the attack and Reagan's state of health.

CONTROLS BEING PLACED ON TRANSIT VISAS FOR CUBANS

PA282247 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1715 GMT 28 Mar 81

[Interview with Elias Castillo, immigration director of Panama, by unidentified reporter; date and place not given--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Mr Castillo, there have been some restrictions in the past few days on Cuban citizens who have permission to leave their country and enter the United States or other countries. However, when they have requested transit visas for Panama, they have been refused. Why?

[Answer] Panama has been serving as a bridge for many Cubans who leave Cuba to go to a third country. Transit visas are for 72 hours. This is enough time to go to a consulate, make flight contacts and go to the country that is their final destination. As a result of this, we have to take adequate control measures so that we don't issue visas at our consulate in Havana for citizens who come here to go to a third country with only a promise to do so but not with an approved visa to go to the third country.

[Question] Mr Castillo, there is talk about a suspension of the issuing of visas for Cuban citizens who want to use Panama as a transit point because of a cooling of Panamanian-Cuban relations, as has been reported at the national and the international level.

[Answer] This is an immigration policy that involves immigration controls more than politics, although it has political significance also. Basically, however, this is an immigration policy that was being applied before the reports appeared on political relations. This is a control measure. When we receive a formal transit visa request, and the visa request has been approved by the country of final destination, Panama has never presented any difficulty.

[Question] Mr Castillo, how would you explain the reduction in the number of visas issued to Cuban citizens in the past 2 months?

[Answer] This is so because we do not want to issue visas when there is no clear approval of the visa by the third country to which they are going, to the places where they have relatives waiting for them.

[Question] However, last year, the restrictions imposed by Panama were not like the ones that exist today, and were not as strictly applied as is being done now.

[Answer] As a result of the Mariel-Key West operation, we have observed--although we don't have an official report on this--that there has been a reduction of visas issued to go to the United States.

SPAIN SIGNS PANAMA CANAL NEUTRALITY PROTOCOL

PA280243 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 27 Mar 81

[Excerpt] Spain today became the 11th nation in the world and the first European country to sign the Panama Canal neutrality protocol.

The signing ceremony and the exchange of documents took place at the Foreign Ministry with the participation of Panamanian Foreign Minister Dr Jorge Illueca and Spanish Ambassador to Panama Antonio Serrano de Haro Medialdea. The act was witnessed by former Spanish Prime Minister Adolfo Suarez, who is on a private visit to Panama.

BELIZEAN PRIME MINISTER ON TERRITORIAL CLAIMS

PA261959 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 24 Mar 81 p 18

[Article by Erich Rodriguez Auerbach]

[Text] Belizean Prime Minister George Price, who arrived in Panama yesterday, indicated in exclusive statements to CRITICA that Belize will not cede its sovereign rights over the cays that form part of its territory to Honduras, Guatemala or any other country.

Price has been in the news ever since the British-Guatemalan agreements granting independence to Belize were announced in London on 16 March.

A short time ago, he visited Tegucigalpa, the capital of Honduras, which has claimed rights to the "Zapotillo Cays." Now in Panama, Price has met with President Aristides Royo and with Gen Omar Torrijos, leader of the Panamanian revolution.

Use, Not Possession

"We have authorized the use of the cays," Price said, "but we will never concede ownership rights to any nation other than Belize." Price emphasized that the settlements reached in London are simply bases for future agreements, not treaties that are binding on the nation.

Price indicated that the cays are uninhabited at present. He said Belize does not consider them to be negotiable.

Price indicated that the time during which the cays may be used remains to be determined, as well as the type of use they will be given--whether they will be used for tourism, meteorology or research on reefs--and the area in the adjacent seas that will also be utilized.

On The Seas

Asked about the delimitation of territorial seas, the prime minister confirmed that joint plans have been made with Guatemala regarding navigation, pollution and fishing in the seas. On Guatemala's need for an outlet to the sea, Price said: Belize has pledged not to extend the limits of its territorial seas beyond the present 3 miles.

In the future, Guatemala will be allowed a sea corridor and that country will have a well-defined maritime border, within the limits of which it will have full sovereignty," the prime minister added.

On Oil

The possibility that there may be huge oil deposits in Belizean seas has been suggested by international news dispatches. Questioned on the subject, Price said: It was agreed that Belize and Guatemala will explore and exploit the Continental Shelf, the so-called economic zone which extends beyond 200 miles off the coast, [as published] to determine whether there really is oil below. "We are going to consider some specific possibility... some commercial project for exploiting this natural resource under total Belizean sovereignty," Price said.

Other Issues

The Caribbean leader also told CRITICA that Belize will not heed any claim to its territory made by the Guatemalan Government, and reaffirmed his people's inalienable right to self-determination, independence and territorial integrity.

"We will preserve until we achieve total independence," he added, and said "we will also participate in all negotiations designed to cultivate friendly relations with a neighboring country, but without conditions that hinder the exercise of our independence. Price said these negotiations would take place in line with the UN resolution that guarantees respect for Belize and its territory.

It was made clear that the bases of understanding agreed upon in London indicate the topics that will be discussed in the future in order to arrive at definitive agreements. "One cannot talk of treaties yet," said the leader of the new Central American nation. "Much discussion and negotiation are ahead and we will never, at any time, agree to anything that goes against the interests and rights of the Belizean people. Price insisted that no commitment had been made to reach an agreement of any kind prior to independence. "Belize will become independent even if no final agreements are reached with Guatemala, and that country has promised not to show any kind of hostility toward Belize and its movement toward total liberation," Price said.

With Support

Our readers will recall that Belize is a nation of some 200,000 inhabitants who wish to live in peace and work for progress. The country, which has an area of 22,000 square km, has demonstrated that it is ready to assume the role of a free and independent nation.

Now, in order to advance firmly, Belize needs to find open doors in all the countries of the world.

Belize has a great future. Its political independence was delayed for almost 2 centuries. But it enters the concert of free and independent nations with many sincere friends... like Panama, which has extended a hand yesterday, today and always.

Finally, let us remember the decision of the UN General Assembly which ordered that the independence of Belize take place before the end of the next assembly. The assembly will begin in September and end in December 1981, that is, this year.

COSTA RICACARAZO, NIEHAUS CONDEMN ATTEMPT ON REAGAN'S LIFE

PA310154 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2357 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Text] San Jose, 30 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo and Foreign Minister Bernd Niehaus, this afternoon condemned the attempt against U.S. President Ronald Reagan and his companions.

In an official press communique, the foreign minister expresses the government's deep concern in view of the criminal attempt suffered by the President of the United States of America, and strongly repudiated this new and most serious act of violence.

"The dastardly action not only constitutes a crime and an affront to that sister nation in the person of its President, but it also a brutal violation to democracy, to security and the peoples' peace," the government note states.

ITALIAN PRESIDENT ARRIVES FOR 3-DAY VISIT

PA302211 [Editorial Report] San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish at 1758 GMT on 30 March begins a live telephone relay from Juan Santamaria International Airport where reporter William Céspedes describes the arrival of Italian President Alessandro Pertini. Céspedes first reports on the arrival of the top Costa Rican officials who gathered there to welcome the Italian president. At 1803 GMT, Céspedes reports that Pertini steps out of the plane and is greeted by Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo. Céspedes then goes on to report that special protocol honors are being given to President Pertini following the playing of the Italian and Costa Rican national anthems. Céspedes reports that the Italian president will leave at 0800 on Wednesday but that before the Italian president's departure a joint declaration will be signed at the Foreign Ministry where there will be an explanation of some of the aspects of the technical and economic cooperation that Italy gives to Costa Rica. The 19-minute report concludes at 1817 GMT.

DESTABILIZATION PROCESS, ANTI-SANDINISM LINKED

PA281845 San Jose Cadena Internacional de Solidaridad in Spanish 0530 GMT 22 Mar 81

[Via Managua Radio Sandino]

[Excerpts] The developments of the past few days further strengthen the thesis held by political experts that Costa Rica is currently going through a process aimed at destabilizing the entire institutional system. The president of the republic and the high-ranking officials of his government have been practically cordoned off by the scandal sponsored by the local communications media in connection with the much-touted arms traffic.

At present, total confusion exists in connection with the so-called arms traffic because efforts are being made to mix a number of illegal deals that occurred several months after the victory of the revolution, which the government has repudiated, with the developments that occurred during the Nicaraguan people's struggle.

As for the developments in El Salvador, efforts are now being made to prevent the Costa Rican people's unquestionable solidarity with the struggle of their brothers in the north. Aligning itself with the international policy developed by the Reagan administration, the local reactionaries are trying by all means to discredit the Sandinist process and to stop any manifestation of support for the liberation struggles currently underway in El Salvador.

The claws of Somozism are still present in Costa Rica and the ire of certain sectors over the fall of the dictator can be easily detected. Some are even demanding the resignation of President Carazo and his cabinet.

For his part, the president--who is being pressured to cut the country's ties with Cuba, expel the Soviet Embassy and adopt harsh stands against what is being termed international communism's subversion--insists on expressing his pride over having assumed his historic commitment during the anti-Somozist struggle.

While the campaign aimed at discrediting the Sandinist revolution proliferates in Costa Rica, there were strong rumors a few months ago that El Chiguin, the former dictator's sinister heir, had entered and left the country several times.

In any event, it is easy to see that the entire scandal about the traffic of weapons, whose existence is not being denied, is being used to harass the Nicaraguan revolution and to attack President Carazo and his government for having joined--like many of the continent's democratic consciences--the struggle against one of the oldest and most shameful tyrannies in Latin America.

'INDISCRIMINATE ENTRY OF FOREIGNERS' PROTESTED

PA310258 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] The arrival of many Cubans in Costa Rica as an administrative action of the government of the republic is a problem that affects all Costa Ricans. In previous administrations, hundreds of foreigners who fill our businesses, stores and university classrooms, came to Costa Rica by presidential order. These are foreigners who take jobs away from Costa Ricans. These are foreigners who come here to create problems with strikes, protests and demonstrations. These are foreigners who change the culture and way of thinking of Costa Ricans. These are foreigners who are not workers but politicians, not workers but people unhappy with the regime they came from.

We do not oppose being the refuge of those persecuted for political reasons. It is just simply that the government should not abuse this by letting in massive numbers of people who find a job in Costa Rica. There is a campaign underway in Costa Rica to control population growth. However, a president authorizes the arrival of hundreds of Chileans, Cubans and Chinese overnight. There is an excessive number of foreigners in this country, some who come for political reasons and others because there is trading in foreigners here. We have protested and continue to protest the indiscriminate entry of foreigners.

If 200 Cubans are arriving in Costa Rica every Sunday, it means that this country is able to accept the entry of foreigners whom the government can support, feed and lodge. The government is not taking care of the social problems of hundreds of Costa Ricans without schools and a place to sleep. There are hundreds of children in the streets begging for money. There are funds to feed and lodge the Cubans but none for the Costa Ricans who have so many needs. We demand once more that the entry of foreigners be stopped.

ECONOMY MINISTER ANNOUNCES FUEL PRICE HIKES

PA280021 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2149 GMT 26 Mar 81

[Text] San Jose, 26 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--The Costa Rican Government today ordered increases of 25-36 percent in the prices of gasoline, diesel fuel, bunker "C" oil and kerosene.

Economy Minister Jose Miguel Alfaro told the press that "the government feels these price adjustments are necessary to overcome the deficit faced by the Costa Rican Oil Refinery (RECOPE)."

Alfaro noted that the deficit in RECOPE's books stems from the floating of the colon, the national monetary unit, whose value has dropped 100 percent.

A gallon of gasoline will sell for 35.95 colones (approximately \$2.33) effective today. Diesel fuel and kerosene will sell for 23.46 colones (\$1.50) and "bunker C" oil for 5.67 colones (\$0.35) a gallon.

Alfaro said Costa Ricans continue to consume excessive amounts of fuel. He said they must adjust to a profound change to keep the number of dollars spent in fuel imports from increasing."

He added that prices in Costa Rica will be adjusted again if OPEC orders a new increase in the price of crudes next month.

EL SALVADOR

GOVERNMENT 'DEPLORES' ATTACK ON PRESIDENT REAGAN

PA302350 San Salvador Radio Nacional in Spanish 2233 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Salvadoran revolutionary government junta communique]

[Text] Communique for the national and international press: The Salvadoran revolutionary government junta deplores the attack carried out this afternoon against U.S. President Ronald Reagan, White House Press Secretary James Brady and several agents of the security service.

In condemning this unspeakable criminal act, the Salvadoran revolutionary government expresses the hope that President Reagan as well as the other persons who were wounded in the attack will recover.

San Salvador, 30 March 1981.

FMLN'S ROBERTO ROCA ON STRATEGY, OBJECTIVES

PA300254 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 24 Mar 81 p B-1

[Interview with Salvadoran Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] Commander Roberto Roca in El Salvador by correspondent Luis Cabrera; date not specified; with introductory passage]

[Text] Roberto Roca is, together with the rest of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front command, one of the men most wanted by the Salvadoran repressive forces. When I was told, several days after having presented the request, that an interview had been granted, I waited for an appointment.

Waiting in San Salvador is a difficult thing. It is not only because of the heat, but because of fear.

I would dare to say that no one is safe in the Salvadoran streets. No one is sure of his life.

One can walk along Independence Plaza or the marketplace, and it is always the same; fear is never absent.

But as was said by a student of social struggles, "fear is not important; what counts is overcoming it." I tried to overcome it while waiting for the appointment.

Finally one morning, at the appointed time I was picked up near Cuzcatlan Stadium. I have no idea how long I rode in a car or in what direction. I was told, upon seeing "Paradisiac" Valley--and I imprudently asked its name--that it was one of the "politically liberated areas" in San Vicente. I also learned, when I left, that the person I had spoken to was no less than Commander Roberto Roca, a member of the FMLN General Command.

There, without any further ado, (I was given 50 minutes for the interview) we began our dialogue:

[Question] Commander, it has been said that the FMLN sometimes retreats to other countries. Could you tell me why?

[Answer] Under the present conditions in El Salvador, retreats are made within the Salvadoran territory itself. The rearguard bases are located within Salvadoran territory. Retreats are momentary. Advances are made on terrain where tactical retreats have been made. The enemy has tried to prove that the FMLN forces retreat from their positions. However, the enemy cannot keep these positions from returning to FMLN control because we return to our initial positions. Therefore, what the FMLN does is retreat in order to regroup its forces, which are later deployed to recover the terrain where the enemy has entered. What the enemy really does is raid areas under FMLN control. What we do is retreat in areas that we control. This can be seen in all the places I have mentioned: Chalatenango, the Guazapa and San Pedro hills, Usulután and Morazan.

Casualties

We believe that the FMLN losses are logical for any war and that the enemy has lost more men in the initial part of its offensive. We say this for several reasons, including the following: Up until January, our front was waging a defensive process. Starting on 10 January, we began a general offensive phase, which is understood as a new phase within the general war strategy. Within this process, the FMLN has consolidated many rearguard sectors and support bases. This is shown by the failure of the enemy's frustrated attempts. The enemy has made five attempts to seize these rearguard sectors and support bases. However, it has not occupied the Guazapa, eastern Chalatenango and San Pedro hills in San Vicente Department, north Morazan and the part bordering on Lempa in Usulután Department.

Liberated Areas

The FMLN continues occupying zones and increasing its control over them. We must take into consideration that in El Salvador, because of its geography, which is not favorable to guerrilla warfare, and its great demographic density, the control of liberated areas has very special characteristics and that it is not possible to control them according to the traditional concepts of a liberated area.

Political Control

The control of these areas is strengthened first with political control. Military control is measured by the revolutionary forces' ability to avoid enemy offensives and to recover territory once the enemy offensive has lost its initial momentum and force.

Failure in the Army's Offensive

Here the enemy launched a major offensive. The revolutionary forces were able to defend more than 4,000 civilians who live in the area, withdrawing them in an orderly manner to a region unfavorable to the enemy army, where the enemy was held back and its offensive diminished. Following this, the revolutionary forces have gradually recovered the lost terrain and returned to their initial positions.

Our Own Forces

We have insisted on the fact that the Salvadoran people have been waging a war based on their own efforts. No liberation war can take place when this principle is disregarded. Many people of the world give solidary assistance, of a political nature, to the people of El Salvador. The military aid is obtained in combat.

The FMLN's large arms supply has been obtained mainly from the enemy. This is why we say that the larger the enemy's arms supply, the larger our supply will be. However, within the process of the revolution there is a need for different types of arms. There is an international arms market, which we use to cover these needs when necessary. But, basically, the principle of the FMLN is to obtain the arms from the enemy. Therefore, we can reiterate that the people of El Salvador are waging their own war and that the propaganda offensive of U.S. imperialism involving other Central American nations and other brothers of the world in an alleged direct support of a military nature is a fallacy known by the people of the world who see it, feel it and hear it whenever there is a liberation process.

Negotiation With the Junta

[Answer] At this moment, the FMLN general headquarters does not see such talks as suitable or advisable, first, because the military-Christian Democratic junta does not represent any sector of the people. On the contrary, it represents the intention to oppress the people with a typically puppet-like political structure with which the FMLN does not have the slightest intention of establishing a dialogue. We have said we are prepared to talk with those who are propping up that junta, that is, with the Reagan government.

Yankee Intervention

[Question] What do you think about an intervention?

[Answer] Every nation has the right to solve its own political problems without other people meddling in those problems. Therefore, we are opposed to the interventionist escalation by U.S. imperialism and especially the Reagan administration. We are asking the world to oppose it also. We see U.S. intervention in the Salvadoran conflict as very dangerous. They are the interventionist ones. They are the ones who, step by step and without any shame, are supporting one of the belligerent parties in the Salvadoran military and political conflict.

We believe that as this intervention increases, the conflict will necessarily become regionalized because we are convinced that the people of Central America, as they have done on other occasions, will unite to oppose any foreign troops trying to impose their will on any of the Central American nations. We do not want this because we are struggling to recover peace in El Salvador.

The Peace of Cemeteries

The enemy too struggles for peace, for the peace of the cemetery, for the peace that results from the crushing of any political opposition. The war process in El Salvador has been initiated precisely because it has been impossible for the people to express their political positions and to carry out their political plans. War has been the only road left for the people to defend themselves, to survive, and now, to defeat the oppressors. Therefore, we think that the imperialist intervention is a threat to world peace. It is a threat to peace in the Central American region. As this intervention increases (this refers to a possible evolution), the people of Central America will find themselves forced to initiate a war for liberation and against intervention.

The Future

[Question] I would like to ask you one last question. What is the future of the struggle of the Salvadoran people?

[Answer] We sum up the future in a few words: The future is victory. However, the direct and massive intervention of U.S. imperialism will obviously turn the Salvadoran people's war into a longer and more painful process (which we do not want). Nobody in El Salvador wants this except the enemies of the people. We believe that to the extent that intervention grows, as I previously said, so will grow the solidarity support of the Central American peoples, especially the revolutionary movement in Honduras and Nicaragua. The fraternal peoples of Nicaragua and Costa Rica will fight U.S. intervention because it is also a threat to them and a threat to peace in the region. We believe that the revolutionary process in El Salvador has a single solution: the victory of the revolutionary forces.

We have fought for 10 long years. The people have learned to overcome hunger. They have learned to fight with little food and under unfavorable geographical conditions. They have learned to protect themselves and to gradually advance in the war effort. Two years ago, the rearguard sectors and support bases were weak in El Salvador; today, they are stronger. Two years ago, the U.S. intervention was relatively much smaller; today, it is much greater. Nevertheless, the people's participation increases as that U.S. aid increases. The people's triumphs are becoming greater and a sense of freedom is spreading to the other Central American nations. In Guatemala, for example, the revolutionary process is advancing as the U.S. intervention grows in El Salvador. Besides waging their war against the murderous Guatemalan dictatorship, the Guatemalan people are also preparing for the possibility of a more direct U.S. intervention in Central America. Therefore, we believe that the revolutionary triumph is assured. This will occur sooner or later depending to a great extent on the dimension of the U.S. intervention. However, in Central America as well as in Southeast Asia, imperialist intervention will not defeat the people's love for freedom; on the contrary, it will intensify it and improve the possibilities of greater triumph.

The Salvadorans, Central America and the World

In conclusion, I want to tell you that we are glad that you are here with us in one of the combat areas.

One of the things that I want to say, now that there is a possibility that the revolutionary words may be heard throughout the world, is this: We believe that the world must seriously analyze the meaning of an increasingly possible U.S. intervention in El Salvador and Central America. This is a serious threat that must be analyzed because of its importance to the entire world. Therefore, to defeat the Reagan administration's interventionist intentions is an objective, not only of the Salvadoran and Central American people, but also of all the peoples of the world. This is why we are asking all the peoples of the world to increase the struggle to prevent a U.S. intervention in El Salvador. An imperialist intervention in El Salvador is a threat to all the world because it is contrary to all the peoples of the world and because it is logical that all these peoples must defeat this interventionist intention once and for all. Reagan's aggressiveness must be halted. We must halt this threat to world peace.

RADIO VENCEREMOS REPORTS COMBAT SITUATION

Army Ineffective in Morazan

PA291623 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 29 Mar 81

[Text] The entire national territory has become a battlefield in which the people are advancing without pause. In recent weeks, the enemy has concentrated great military efforts in Morazan Department.

In 19 days of operations, the bourgeois army has fired over 1,300 mortar shells without interruption. There it is using only 105-mm cannons, a fleet of helicopters, reconnaissance planes, Fouga Magister and [word indistinct] airplanes and from 9 to 12 infantry companies. They have bombed. They have strafed. They have attempted to advance by day or by night, with or without artillery or air support. Yet as of today, after 19 days of fighting, the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front [FMLN] can say that the army's attempts have served only to demoralize its own soldiers to show the world the nature of some of its military commanders, like the genocidal Napoleon Medina Garay, and to effect the criminal killing of over 40 peasants, including women, children and the aged.

The operation launched by the genocidal army in Morazan Department so far has served only to demonstrate the strength, organization, discipline and high military and technical capability of the FMLN regular forces, the fighting spirit of our popular militias and the determination of our people to win peace, justice and national independence.

They have been unable to break our line of defense, despite their great imperialist weapons and advisers. The Francisco Sanchez eastern front issues a combative and revolutionary greeting to our brothers who are fighting on the other battlefronts in the national territory. Forward, companeros: Take action throughout the country. The revolution is advancing and the enemy is falling day by day. Long live the FMLN! Long live the Revolutionary Democratic Front! The present is for fighting; the future is ours!

FMLN Holding Firm

PA300449 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Text] Radio Venceremos is gathering information on the fighting in Morazan Department, especially in El Mozote region where the dictatorship has concentrated large numbers of troops as well as heavy artillery. Our lines from El Junquillo to the Sapo River are holding fast in spite of the attack by specialized counterinsurgency troops trained in the Panama Canal Zone.

Reports from La Guacamaya Canton say that the enemy continues its encirclement around Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front [FMLN] positions. The enemy could not pass the Sapo River lines and the dictatorship has continued applying pressure on the north flank along El Mozote with artillery support. It was also reported that aircraft bombed FMLN positions in La Guacamaya canton without inflicting casualties among our troops.

Violent fighting has broken out in El Mozote region where our heroic fighters have inflicted many casualties on the enemy and suffered only a slight wound. Reports from San Francisco Gotera in Morazan say that military trucks with troops continue mobilizing toward the combat area. The people of San Francisco have publicly repudiated the measure of not attending local patients in the hospital in order to attend the members of the army who are wounded.

CHURCH CONDEMNS ATTACKS ON EMBASSIES, ABUSES

PA292109 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1806 GMT 29 Mar 81

[Text] San Salvador, 29 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--The church today condemned the attacks on the Embassies of Nicaragua and the United States in San Salvador, both of which occurred this past week.

The Nicaraguan Embassy was machinegunned by unidentified persons on Monday, 23 March. There were no casualties. The U.S. Embassy was attacked by Chinese-made RPG-2 rocket launchers on the afternoon of Thursday, 26 March.

Father Roberto Amilcar Torruella said during the Sunday homily at the cathedral that "the church regrets and condemns these acts because they threaten the lives of many people."

The priest also denounced the abuses to which the church has been subjected in the past few days, specifically a military search of Bernal Church, located in the Bernal neighborhood in the southern part of the capital.

ECONOMY MINISTRY ANNOUNCES FUEL PRICE HIKE

PA271252 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2126 GMT 26 Mar 81

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 26 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--Beginning today, the price of gasoline has been increased 25 percent in El Salvador. According to the Economy Ministry, the measure is due to the increase in the price of crude on the part of the oil-producing countries.

El Salvador buys crude from Mexico and Venezuela.

Salvadoran Economy Minister Guillermo Diaz stated that "the increase in the price of oil is a phenomenon of the international economy from which El Salvador cannot be excluded."

However, Diaz Salazar affirmed that urban transportation fares will not be increased because the ministry is subsidizing the price of diesel fuel which is used by these vehicles.

MINISTRY TO PROMOTE AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES

PA282307 San Salvador DIARIO LATINO in Spanish 25 Mar 81 p 3

[Text] A total of 229 cooperatives will be promoted and organized this year by the Agriculture Ministry working through its agricultural associations department. This department was created in May 1980 shortly after the promulgation of the agrarian reform basic law. A total of 407 agricultural associations have been registered so far, including 17 fishing cooperatives.

Department chief Carlos Mauricio Romero, explained that this year his organization will start a number of services to support these agricultural associations. This intensive effort to create cooperatives will last until the 261 municipalities in the country have been covered, he said.

GUATEMALA

BELIZE INDEPENDENCE SEEN AS OPENING FOR USSR

PA290205 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 18 Mar 81 p 2

["National Events" column: "Belize in the Balance"]

[Excerpts] The Guatemalan people have calmly accepted the news of Belize's independence. This territory has been constitutionally considered to be part of the national territory, although jurisdiction was never exerted over it, and there was no act of possession to validate our demand. This could explain the attitude which has been taken toward the conclusion of this issue after more than a century of juridical demands. Perhaps, behind all this was the conviction that this was a futile struggle, which was waged slightly idealistically against superior forces which were deaf to the voice of reason and indifferent to the dictates of right. Against these forces only a violent action, a "fait accompli" would have obtained continental support.

But precisely because the British empire was crumbling, Belize became one of the last vestiges of colonialism to which it clung as a symbol of its imperialist pride. Rather than accept the claims of a small country like Guatemala, it preferred to grant independence to a territory it usurped a long time ago because by doing this it acted in the name of an established principle. This was feigned of condescension to satisfy what it pompously called the "just demands" for self-determination, one of today's myths. What may have appeared as a new defeat for the decadent nation, is now presented as a splendid gesture. To be sure, Britain must now be enjoying the role of a great lord granting the demands of its subjects, when what it is really doing is dropping of a hot potato.

The fact is that this is not really a British triumph. The battle of Belize was won by a world blinded by the myth of self-determination of peoples which conceals sordid designs. In the first place, we must realize that these are not genuine movements, but maneuvers ably handled by the Soviet Union and other socialist forces. The anticolonial struggle is part of its destabilization and infiltration strategy. The traditional framework of power is destroyed and the Marxist lever is introduced among peoples lacking maturity and ability to rule their destinies. They are docile instruments in a geopolitical game which they do not understand and which is alien to their often tribal traditions, as occurs in most of the new African nations and in some of the Caribbean. They are all dazzled by the idea of their right to rule their destiny and are in fact trapped in the nets of a new and sinister imperialism. These states and ministates, many of which are incapable of existing by themselves, are helpless pawns in the strategy of a World War III. Belize will sooner or later become part of this maneuver. Castroism has already established a beachhead of influence within the new administration and shortly, by means of agreements which price will not be able to refuse, he will see the infiltrators working to turn this minstate into a pawn of socialism.

HAVANA RADIO REPORTS GUERRILLA OPERATIONS

Convoy Attacked, Bombs Exploded

PA281705 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 28 Mar 81

[Text] At least three soldiers were killed and several were wounded during a clash between guerrillas and troops in the Guatemalan department of Huehuetenango. Reports reaching San Jose, Costa Rica indicate that the guerrillas attacked an army convoy in (Aguacatan), 280 km northwest of Guatemala City, and that they withdrew after inflicting several casualties on the troops.

It has also been learned that two propaganda bombs were set off in Quezaltenango and Guatemala City. The bombs spewed thousands of pamphlets of the Guatemalan Labor Party which denounced U.S. intervention in Central America and the genocide against the Salvadoran people by the military-Christian Democratic junta with the support of the U.S. Government.

The People's Guerrilla Army reported that the Indians, descendants of the Quiche, Mam, Cakchiquel and Kelchi peoples, are increasingly joining the guerrillas.

ORPA Communique Issued

PA291520 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 29 Mar 81

[Text] The Armed People's Revolutionary Organization [ORPA] in Guatemala stated in a communique that guerrilla commands have caused 61 casualties among troops of the Guatemalan regime in recent fighting. The communique reports on guerrilla activities in San Marcos, Sacatepequez and Quezaltenango Departments from 24 February to the first days in March during which the government troops also lost several vehicles.

GOVERNMENT SETS UP REFUGEE CAMPS IN EL QUICHE

PA301707 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 1230 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Text] The National Emergency Committee will set up emergency camps at (Tantan), Quiche to shelter hundreds of families who have fled from their homes in El Quiche Department because they are being harassed by subversive groups.

The care of more than 600 families at (Tantan) presents a delicate situation. There is not enough food and other supplies, so the corresponding authorities will intervene to help the residents. These families don't want to live on their lands any more and have asked the government to help them solve their precarious situation as soon as possible.

NICARAGUAGOVERNING JUNTA CONDEMNS ATTACK ON REAGAN

PA310146 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0114 GMT 31 Mar 81

[Text] Managua, 30 Mar (LATIN)--The Nicaraguan governing junta today expressed "its strongest repudiation of the attempt on the life of President Ronald Reagan" in a message addressed to his wife Nancy by Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto. The foreign minister added that the members of the junta wish President Reagan a speedy recovery.

In another message, Manuel Espinosa Enriquez, press secretary for the Nicaraguan governing junta, addressed the office of the press secretary of the White House, repudiating the attack which left Press Secretary James Brady wounded and hoping for Brady's recovery.

HASSAN ON THREAT TO REVOLUTION, FOREIGN RELATIONS

JN291853 Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic 28 Mar 81 pp 27-29

[AL-MUSTAQBAL correspondent Basim al-Mu'allim interview with Moises Hassan, member of the Nicaraguan junta, in Managua--date not given]

[Text] [Question] The civil war is raging in El Salvador. The United States has dispatched Green Beret advisers to train the junta army's in combat tactics against the revolutionaries. The United States is accusing you of supplying these revolutionaries with arms and equipment. What is your reply and what is the size of your assistance to the Salvadoran revolutionaries?

[Answer] The U.S. measures constitute blatant military intervention in the affairs of El Salvador. Washington's allegations that we are behind the revolution in El Salvador are baseless and meant to justify intervention in our affairs.

Our only intervention in El Salvador is to provide political and ethical support for the revolutionaries. We have proved to the Salvadoran people that it is possible to score victory over the enemy if they are determined to confront the enemy until the end. Our role in the Salvadoran revolution is providing moral and political support.

Unfortunately, the United States, led by President Ronald Reagan, has justified its intervention in El Salvador by accusing us, the Soviet Union and Cuba of intervening in El Salvador. They wanted to involve us in this crisis to justify their intervention, which they called aid and consultations. Actually, it is the U.S. Army, the U.S. Navy and the U.S. camp and nobody else that is materially participating in the Salvadoran war.

[Question] Had there been no proof that you are assisting the Salvadoran revolutionaries, the Americans would have never convinced the world that you are doing so. How do you assess your relations with President Reagan's administration?

[Answer] First, the Americans cannot prove any of their allegations. As I told you, they have used these allegations to justify their military intervention in El Salvador.

Second, their aim behind this intervention is to bring pressure to bear on us. As you know, our country attained independence on 19 July 1979 for the first time in our history. We make our decisions in the interest of our people as well as of the world's people to which we belong, that is, the peoples of the Third World. The United States is trying to force us back to our previous situation, to the situation when the Nicaraguan Government under Anastasio Somoza was making decisions in the interest of the United States and of the big U.S. companies.

They are putting pressure on us and they have the power to do so. We admit that we are economically weak. This weakness intensified as a result of our successful war of liberation because the war destroyed most of our industries and fields, including the cotton and tobacco farms.

[Question] Can you resist these pressures?

[Answer] They refuse to honor their pledges to assist us economically. Now they have suspended an approved loan to purchase wheat, and this is causing us trouble. It is not easy to obtain wheat to feed our people, for we do not produce it.

I believe they are trying to undermine our government because they think that in doing so our people will be affected and will blame our government for the wheat shortage. In terms of our basic weakness and our great reliance on the U.S. economic assistance, we find that the burden is heavy. We are living despite the burden. We are not afraid. We are prepared to shoulder our responsibilities. We are confident that our people will understand the situation and will pour their wrath on the imperialist forces which are trying to place us in this situation.

[Question] During my week-long stay in this country, I heard a number of analyses about your relations with Washington. However, the most argumentative analysis was that which I heard from a businessman who has supported your revolution. He said: The U.S. administration has put your expulsion from the five-man committee (the ruling junta) and moving the junta to the center as a condition for delivering the remaining part of the \$15 million economic assistance.

[Answer] Who are these people?

[Question] They are Nicaraguan and U.S. businessmen and journalists. They are not enemies of the revolution.

[Answer] I do not agree with them, but I do not blame them for their interpretation. I was the first to draw the attention of the junta to the fact that we would be hearing such interpretations from the people. They would say that I may be removed from the junta to show Washington that we are moving toward the center. This is not the case.

I have warned my leadership against these interpretations. Actually, we expected the resignation of Dr Arturo Cruz, the representative of the businessmen and the fifth member because he was sick and exhausted. He told us that he wanted to resign because his health was too weak to enable him to continue in his post. His resignation does not mean that he has become an enemy of the revolution. Cruz simply felt that his role in the junta had ended. Cruz was honest and told us verbatim: I feel that I cannot accomplish what I have to accomplish. He asked us to appoint him to another post in which he would be more effective.

Our fear of accepting his resignation and of its misinterpretation and the fact that the junta administration and the government were not acting well have delayed the implementation of our decisions and politics. That is why we decided to reconstruct the junta and administration. We created a strong general secretariat and a government council. I am the head of this council to organize matters and to coordinate between the junta and the administration.

[Question] Then you still are part of the structure that makes the decisive decisions for the revolution?

[Answer] Of course we all make the decisions. The aim behind the change we instituted is to put an end to the chaos and to organize the responsibilities, each to his field of specialization. We are putting our house in order.

[Question] One of the accusations voiced by those I spoke with here is that you are behaving in a dictatorial manner toward the opposition, particularly toward Alfonso Robelo, who was your partner when the junta was first formed before the revolution triumphed. What do you say to that?

[Answer] These are baseless accusations. Alfonso Robelo seeks good propaganda for himself and bad propaganda for the revolution. But you know Robelo and his stands (what was said here is not for publication).

[Question] What about the businessmen and their fears of the success of the leftwing in your movement? What about their opposition?

[Answer] They are allergic to the junta's ideological formation. When LA PRENSA and the reactionary parties say that the Sandinist junta will confiscate their small shops and farms or that we will nationalize their lands, their fear and opposition escalate.

[Question] Do you mean that you will not resort to nationalization?

[Answer] Of course not. We don't want it and we don't need it. It is out of the question. Therefore, we do not allow campaigns of fear to influence them. During the past 3 months, we were able to reach some sort of understanding with them. We have organized some of them. We organized the small producers in small groups in order to protect their interests.

[Question] Do you blame them, particularly when they hear that you are friends with Cuba and socialism?

[Answer] This does not mean that we will nationalize the sectors and the farms. I assure you this is out of the question.

[Question] Since we are talking about Cuba, might we speak about your foreign policy starting with Latin America?

[Answer] We have many friends in this part of the world. But we have to differentiate among them. We appreciate Cuba and Mexico more than the others because of their support for us. We are grateful for their financial and political support for our revolution. Mexico and Cuba are our dearest friends in Latin America. They are our brothers.

Despite the pressure imposed on Mexico by Washington to stop its aid, this aid continues. Of course Cuba is our friend till the end; Cuba helps us within its capabilities. It has our boundless gratitude.

[Question] What about the USSR?

[Answer] Our relations with Moscow are good. They began at the end of our liberation war. They are relations of friendship. We expect to continue cooperating with the USSR. We also expect the USSR to do what it can to support us. But these new relations are not to be compared with the traditional relations our country used to have with other countries.

[Question] Let's go back to Latin America.

[Answer] We have good relations with Venezuela, but not as good as those with Mexico or Cuba. Misunderstandings have erupted at some times, but we overcame them. Our relations with Venezuela are good. Their cooperation with us in the field of oil supplies is noteworthy. We thank them too.

[Question] What about European countries?

[Answer] We have many friends in West Europe, in the Socialist International, the parties and the governments of the Socialist International. These governments have expressed their political, moral and financial support for us in more ways than one. These governments include the FRG, Sweden and the Netherlands.

[Question] And the Middle East?

[Answer] Unfortunately, we could not establish the relations we wanted with the states of the region, except with the PLO, with which we have relations of fraternity and friendship and which has opened an embassy in Nicaragua. The PLO is like Cuba and Mexico to us. They are our brothers.

[Question] And Algeria?

[Answer] They understand what is taking place in our country. They have provided us with support. As for the other states, we are trying to establish good relations with a number of them, but we have not been able to establish such relations with Iraq and Libya. We will send an envoy to Tripoli soon. Libya has opened a relations office in Managua. But, in the long run and step by step, we will come closer to the Arab world, I am sure that most of the Arab world wants to have closer relations with us.

[Question] And Israel?

[Answer] We do not want to deal with the Israelis. The people of Nicaragua have not yet forgotten and will not forget that one state in this world continued to provide Somoza with support until the last minute. This state is Israel. Our people will not forget that the planes used to strafe them were Israeli-made. They will not forget that the (Fayz) (a rifle) is made in Israel. We have truly severed our relations with Israel, although not in an official way, since 19 July 1979.

[Question] What about the Israeli attempts to return to Managua through the window after being driven out through the front door with Somoza?

[Answer] There are Israeli attempts to approach the Nicaraguan Government. We have rejected these attempts very honestly and clearly.

[Question] Your neighbor Guatemala accuses you of helping the revolutionaries, and your relations with it are getting worse and worse.

[Answer] These relations are very bad and do not need to get worse. The latest developments show that they will not be rectified. It seems that the Guatemalan Government has followed Washington's steps in leveling accusations against us. They are playing the U.S. game. Washington claims that it has found documents that prove that we are passing arms from Cuba to the rebels in El Salvador. Guatemala has refused not to participate in the operation with Washington, so it alleged this week that it found proof, which is doubtful (laughs heartily), that Nicaragua is sending military aid to the Guatemalan rebels.

[Question] What is this proof?

[Answer] They alleged that they found evidence in the possession of a Guatemalan rebel after they had killed and searched him.

It is strange how weak an imagination these people have. When you add up Washington's allegations with Guatemala's, you see that they are trying to paint Nicaragua as a big bogeyman which is exporting revolution to revolutionize the area. Nicaragua has become responsible for the problems of all of them--those peace-lovers.

[Question] In light of this interview and other interviews with other officials, I have formed a strong impression that, disregarding revolutionary slogans, you are afraid, very afraid of Ronald Reagan's policy toward Central America, and toward you in specific. You are the graduate of a well-known American university, and you understand the structure of U.S. politics. Have you tried to work with Ronald Reagan's opponents or with groups which affect his important decisions to change his policy toward you?

[Answer] We are worried. Yes, we are worried. The history of U.S. military intervention in our country causes us to worry. We still have not forgotten the landing of the marines (the U.S. Navy) and the setting up of the Somoza family in power. We have several friendly contacts in the United States, and in the Congress in particular, for example, Senator Zorinsky from Nebraska and others. We try to establish good relations with them. We have not to date rejected any good initiative by any American from Congress or from the people to establish good relations with us. We call on them to take an objective stand toward our revolution. The U.S. congressmen who visited us recently expressed their understanding of our revolution and were positive. They also visited El Salvador and expressed their understanding of the situation there. They did not hide their opposition to President Reagan's administration sending arms to the Salvadoran Army to assassinate the people. They said so clearly. We try to get the help of the good, honest congressmen who see "dirt" as it really is, not as it is portrayed by the interests of large international companies. We try to get their help in the predicament in which President Reagan has put us.

[Question] Mr Hassan, you are a Nicaraguan of Palestinian origin. Your father was born in the village of Jab'ah near Ramallah. When you speak of the PLO, your face lights up. What would you like to say to the Palestinian revolutionaries about your struggling experience in the revolution against the Somoza regime?

[Answer] The road to victory must pass through a unification of all the revolutionary factions. We have learned this lesson from our thorny experience. As long as we were divided, shaky and in disagreement on trivial issues, we suffered weakness. However, when we unified our ranks, victory became only a few steps away. The situation in Palestine is different from the situation in Nicaragua. However, the statement on unification of the fighters' ranks and the revolutionary forces still stands despite the geographic separation of the two causes.

ORTEGA, DELEGATION RETURN FROM INDOCHINA TOUR

PA301615 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Text] After a visit to Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos, the official delegation headed by Defense Minister Humberto Ortega Saavedra has returned to Nicaragua.

Commander Humberto Ortega reported on the trip to the Indochinese nations, saying that the first nation visited was the thousand times heroic Vietnam, where the Nicaraguan delegation was welcomed by Prime Minister Pham Van Dong. In addition, they also held fraternal meetings with Vietnamese President Nguyen Huu Tho, Gen Vo Nguyen Giap and Truong Chinh, a member of the Political Bureau and revolutionary ideologist.

An important fact pointed out by the commander in chief of the Sandinist army was that despite the distance between Vietnam and Nicaragua, there is full knowledge and complete identification with the Sandinist revolutionary process at all levels.

Furthermore, added Commander Humberto Ortega, Vietnam plays an important role among the nations of Southeast Asia, especially because of its internationalist and solidaristic attitude toward threatened peoples such as Kampuchea.

Later, the delegation visited Kampuchea, where the marks of genocide and destruction of the Pol Pot regime are still fresh.

The last country to be visited was Laos, where the Nicaraguan delegation met with the Laotian president and prime minister. In this city, [as heard] the signs of the war against the Yankees still exist.

In conclusion, Commander Humberto Ortega said that in the three countries visited, they signed agreements of support for the people of Nicaragua and the peoples who struggle for their liberty, peace and social progress.

VISITING HUNGARIAN DELEGATION LEAVES FOR MEXICO

LD271740 Budapest MTI in English 1706 GMT 27 Mar 81

[Text] Managua, 27 Mar (MTI)--The Hungarian parliamentary delegation making a round tour of visits in Latin America has left Nicaragua. At the invitation of the Nicaraguan Council of State, the delegation which is headed by Janos Peter, deputy speaker of parliament, paid an official friendship visit in the country from March 22 till 26.

They had discussions with Carlos Nunez, president of the directing council of the Council of State, with Deputy President Doria Maria Tellez, and with other officials of the directing council.

The Hungarian delegation was seen by Bayardo Arce, coordinator of the Sandinist National Liberation Front, and by Rafael Cordova Rivas, member of the governing council.

They met with the leaders of the four political parties constituting the Revolutionary Patriotic Front of Nicaragua and with representatives of mass organizations.

The Hungarian parliamentary delegation laid a wreath to the monument of Carlos Fonseca Amador, founder of the Sandinist National Liberation Front. The senior officials of the Council of State gave luncheon in honour of the Hungarian guests. Janos Peter invited a delegation of the Council of State for a visit in Hungary.

From Nicaragua the Hungarian delegation left for Mexico.

STATE COUNCIL DELEGATION DEPARTS ON EUROPEAN TOUR

PA292211 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1754 GMT 29 Mar 81

[Text] Managua, 29 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--A delegation of the State Council (the colegislative body of the government), led by Commander Carlos Nunez will leave today from San Jose, Costa Rica, to visit several European countries. The delegation which left for Costa Rica on Saturday night will make a stopover in Madrid, Spain, and from there will go to Geneva, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Yugoslavia and Belgium.

Luis Sanchez Sancho, Plutarco Anduray, Carlos Garcia and Milu Vargas make up the delegation of the State Council.

One of the objectives of the mission is to present in Geneva a request for the State Council's official membership in the IPU. The IPU is made up of parliaments of 88 nations and has its headquarters in Geneva. In 1978 it expelled Nicaragua because it believed that the Nicaraguan congress during the Somoza government was not representative.

The IPU Executive Committee will pass the Nicaraguan request to a meeting of the IPU which will be held in Manila in April. It is expected that Nicaragua will be the 89th member of the IPU during the world assembly that the IPU will hold in Havana, Cuba, in September.

FSLN DECIDES TO BEGIN UNITY TALKS WITH PARTIES

PA302223 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 2040 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Communique issued by the Sandinist National Liberation Front, FSLN, on 30 March]

[Text] The secretariat of the National Directorate of the FSLN wishes to inform the heroic people of Nicaragua:

1. That the FSLN National Directorate, after analyzing the dangers of aggressions from abroad against our country; the ever more aggressive and frequent activities of Somozist bands crossing our borders; the economic and social situation of the nation and the latest incidents occurring in the country, has decided to begin a number of dialogues with the various political, economic and social forces of the country to analyze the situation and to search for answers that may contribute to the policy of national unity which the Sandinist popular revolution is promoting.
2. That in this respect, meetings have been initiated with the Union of Nicaraguan Journalists, the Patriotic Front of the Revolution, the Nicaraguan Labor Coordination Organization and with religious leaders; that invitations have been extended to the business, ecclesiastical, political and labor sectors in the country, as well as to the owners of the communications media, to learn of their views concerning the national situation.
3. That the FSLN will in due time inform the Nicaragua people of the results of these dialogues which we hope will lead to the most suitable answers for the defense of our country from foreign threats, and to continuing the advance to overcome the critical economic situation in which the Somozist dictatorship left the country.

Sandinó yesterday, Sandino today, Sandino always.

[Signed] Rene Nunez Tellez, secretary of the FSLN National Directorate.
Managua, 30 March 1981.

TELLEZ URGES DEFENSE COMMITTEE CONSOLIDATION

PA310052 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Text] The heavily populated San Judas District has given an impressive sendoff to Battalion 5013 of the Ezequiel Brigade, which left for the Apanas School for a new training phase.

There was a big turnout. People cried, cheered and said goodbye as relatives of the militiamen kissed and embraced them and wished them well.

The militiamen left in 30 trucks to accomplish a new revolutionary task. Guerrilla Commander Dora Maria Tellez appealed to the people to consolidate the Sandinist Defense Committees, to join the people's health drives and to take their children to vaccination posts to protect them against polio.

Freddy Padilla, political head of the 3d company of Battalion 5013, said that the experience to be gained from training in Apanas will serve to consolidate the political and military preparedness of the combatants.

Each Nicaraguan; a militiaman.

GRENADA CST CALLS ON PEOPLE TO JOIN MILITIAS

PA310223 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Communique issued by the Grenada Departmental Executive Committee of the Sandinist Workers Federation [CST] read by Augusto Lopez, CST production secretary; date not given--live or recorded]

[Text] To all the working classes and people in general:

U.S. imperialism, the reaction and the traitorous bourgeoisie have, from the very beginning of the victory of the people's Sandinist revolution, tried to disrupt this process which was achieved at a high cost of blood, sweat, sacrifice and the lives of more than 50,000 brothers.

These sectors are not content with attacking us economically, such as the shameless denial of the loan to purchase wheat, the often discussed \$75 million loan, but they also attack us militarily, both directly and indirectly, by using neighboring countries as staging areas to plot military interventions in Central America, and specifically in Nicaragua. The murder of heroic militia companeros on the border with Honduras is real evidence of this.

Battalion 8011 of the Sandinist People's Army which corresponds to the Grenada Department is preparing to (?ield) political and military (?power) for a 15-day period from 1 to 15 April.

At this time, when the task of defense is fundamental and we have the opportunity to achieve military preparedness to be in trim fighting shape to guarantee the conquests achieved on 19 July 1979 by all of our people, the CST Departmental Executive Committee appeals to all our people and working class to join Battalion 8011 with determination. We make this appeal at a time when we require that the battalion be prepared and ready to defend our country's sovereignty.

At the same time we appeal to the working class of the department to join the glorious Sandinist People's Militias.

SOMOZILLO MILITIAMAN CACERES SHOT TO DEATH

PA291417 Managua International Service in Spanish 0030 GMT 29 Mar 81

[Text] Counterrevolutionary and genocidal persons insist on killing the best children of Nicaragua. Yesterday night, 27 March, genocidal persons cowardly assassinated Companero Noel Caceres Mondragon, 23, who was a member of the Sandinist People's Militia [MSP], secretary of the municipal junta and secretary of the rank and file committee of the Rio Negro region.

The crime was carried out last night in the municipality of Malpaisillo, Chinandega Department, 200 km northwest of Managua. This is the area where Companeros Presentacion Ponce and Abel Quintero were also killed. Ponce and Quintero were militiamen of the town.

Caceres' body had two bullet holes in the back. He was the father of two children.

The Somozillo MPS have lost three heroic companeros in less than a month.

RELATIVE OF MDN'S ALFONSO ROBELO ARRESTED IN LEON

PA310407 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Text] A relative of Alfonso Robelo, leader of the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement [MDN] has been arrested in Leon. He is Carlos Robelo Gonzalez, an industrialist, who is being held in jail in Leon.

It has been affirmed that a magazine for an unspecified weapon was found on Robelo's driver while he was inside Robelo's car. The driver said that it belonged to his employer. Investigations were begun immediately [passage indistinct].

CTN URGED TO RECONSIDER ANTILABOR POSITIONS

PA281828 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 28 Mar 81

[Text] The working class is the moving force that stimulates the development of our revolutionary process. Since the Federation of Nicaraguan Workers, CTN, and the unions affiliated to it are not fulfilling this function, they have been urged to reconsider.

Companero Dennis Melendez, deputy secretary general of the Sandinist Workers Federation, CST, and a member of the Nicaraguan Labor Coordination Organization [CSN], has said that the CTN and its unions have taken the wrong path that is leading them toward the past.

Melendez said that the unions affiliated with the CTN do not defend the workers' interest. Instead they are lending themselves to the game of the Yankee imperialists. Companero Dennis Melendez said the following to Radio Sandino:

[Begin recording] The CTN and other groups which met for the fourth congress are not only the expression, the essence of imperialism in our fatherland; their activities are a part of an overall plan established by imperialism in which each of these groups have a part to play.

As is known, some days ago, Commander of the Revolution Bayardo Arce Castano, a member of the National Directorate of the Sandinist National Liberation Front, emphatically denounced the activities of those groups. It is known that the appendages of the bourgeoisie, whose area of activity is the labor movement, are included in that plan.

Ever since the triumph of the revolution, the CTN has been systematically attacking the Sandinist people's revolution. This is part of the overall plan.

The CSN urges the CTN rank and file and its affiliated unions to understand that the path chosen by their leaders is not one that should be traversed by the workers and is not one that leads to the building of a new society. It is the wrong turn that leads to the past.

The CTN leaders, heeding the call of the traitorous bourgeoisie and the most reactionary, recalcitrant sectors of our country and of imperialism, have carried out activities and plan to continue similar activities for the purpose of perpetuating the overall unjust situation that they maintained in the past.

The CSN calls on the CTN rank and file to think things over, and struggle effectively for full democracy, for social progress, social justice and peace in our country. We will achieve this precisely by preparing our defenses, by committing ourselves fully to the reconstruction of our fatherland, improving our working methods, correcting deficiencies in labor discipline and complying with each and every one of the tasks assigned to us by the National Directorate and the revolutionary process, that is, the tasks of the Sandinist people's revolution. [end recording]

BRIEFS

INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES--The National Reconstruction Government junta has instructed the Foreign Ministry to make effective the appointment of Alejandro Vendana Rodriguez as alternate representative to the United Nations. It has also been reported that Luis Lacayo has been appointed permanent representative to the International Telecommunication Union in Geneva. [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 21 Mar 81 PA]